

FIFTH
BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AND THE OFFICERS OF THE
MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION
FOR THE BLIND

FOR THE
TWO YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1912.



BY AUTHORITY

WYNKOOP HALLENBECK CRAWFORD CO., STATE PRINTERS
LANSING, MICHIGAN
1912



Men's Dormitory.

Factory.

Administration Building.

Women's Dormitory.

FIFTH

Gift of
A. M. Shotwell

BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AND THE OFFICERS OF THE

MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION
FOR THE BLIND

FOR THE

TWO YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1912.

Compliments of

FRANK G. PUTNAM,

Superintendent.

BY AUTHORITY

WYNKOOP HALLENBECK CRAWFORD CO., STATE PRINTERS
LANSING, MICHIGAN
1912

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Joseph Hudson, President	Clare
Henry H. Chatters, Treasurer	Flushing
F. Bruce Smith, Secretary	Saginaw

OFFICERS.

Frank G. Putnam, Superintendent	\$2,000 00*
Ambrose M. Shotwell, Assistant Superintendent and Librarian	420 00*
E. E. Curtis, M. D., Physician.....	250 00
Bessie M. Sutherland, Matron	600 00*

*And maintenance.

TEACHERS.

Agnes Walberg, Weaving and Caning.....	\$600 00*
Constance Molle, Broom Making.....	480 00*
Henry Kettle, Piano Tuning.....	300 00**
Cora Playter, Music Teacher.....	120 00*
Mildred M. Campau, Reader and Assistant Librarian....	120 00**

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Gracie M. Brown, Bookkeeper.....	\$600 00
Margaret E. Decker, Stenographer.....	240 00

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

Lonis R. Putnam, Factory Foreman.....	720 00
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ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT.

James Murray, Engineer and Electrician.....	900 00
William H. Sherwood, Night Fireman and Watchman....	600 00

EMPLOYEES.

Phillip Potter, Yard Foreman and Teamster.....	720 00
Howard Gowing, Carpenter and man-of-all-work.....	540 00
Gottlieb Schnltheiss, Gardener.....	245 00**
Minnie McKay, Laundress.....	360 00
Gertrude Rivett, Assistant Laundress.....	200 00**
Emma L. Hamilton, Seamstress.....	150 00*
Agnes Gauthier, Visitor's Attendant.....	120 00*
Grant J. Martin, Janitor and Chore Boy.....	132 00*

HOUSEHOLD.

Earl Pickell, Cook.....	600 00*
Mrs. Earl Pickell, Assistant Cook.....	240 00*
Julia Farrell, Head Dining Room Maid.....	180 00*
Cynthia Secord, Dining Room Maid.....	180 00*
Vera Hacker, Dining Room Maid.....	168 00*
Dolly Hart, Superintendent's Maid.....	168 00*
Lucy Bashore, Mens' Dormitory Hall Maid.....	240 00*
Edith Lockwood, Womens' Dormitory Hall Maid.....	180 00*
Eva Pratt, Administration Building Hall Maid.....	168 00*

*And maintenance.

**Part time only.

THE MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

The Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind, located at Saginaw West Side, is designed to afford necessary instruction and profitable employment to those worthy blind inhabitants of this State, who, with reasonable assistance and encouragement, are able and willing to work. It was established and is governed under the terms of Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1903, approved June 2, 1903, and was opened at Saginaw West Side, in November, 1904, under the superintendency of James P. Hamilton, who was succeeded in that position in 1907 by Mr. Samuel S. Judd, of Saginaw, who resigned the position in 1910. Mr. Frank G. Putnam, a member of the firm of the Saginaw Broom Company, succeeded to the superintendency in May, 1910.

Here blind men and women of ordinary health and strength between the ages of 18 and 60 years are taught useful trades and occupations; such as broom-making, carpet and rug weaving, chair-caning, piano tuning and the like; and during a limited term of apprenticeship or pupilage the learners have their board, lodging, washing and instruction supplied at the Institution free of charge; for the people of Michigan wish the blind to have an opportunity to become useful and happy citizens, rather than inactive consumers of other people's earnings and savings. The inmates of the Institution may also learn to read books printed in several different forms or raised letters, and to write dotted characters representing letters which they can read by touch for themselves. They also learn to operate an ordinary typewriter, so as to be able to write their own letters to seeing correspondents as rapidly and correctly as seeing persons do.

The Institution also maintains a free circulating library for the benefit of the blind readers of Michigan at their homes, as well as for those who are learning or earning at Saginaw; and the books are distributed as a loan to such readers and later returned to the library by mail free of postage, under an act of Congress passed in 1904. All such readers of any kind of embossed (that is raised) print should apply to the Librarian, Mr. A. M. Shotwell, for such books as they may desire to borrow, for the books are loaned out free of charge for a few weeks at a time to all duly registered readers of such print.

After a useful trade or occupation has been mastered or a course of instruction has been completed, if the learner would not succeed in supporting himself by his trade outside the Institution, but could do so in one of the branches of industry therein pursued, he may remain and receive such wages as he can earn at that trade, and will be expected merely to pay back the actual average cost of his board, washing, etc.

This Institution is at once (1) a trade training school for adult blind apprentices; (2) an industrial factory for the permanent or steady em-

ployment of those able and willing to work and earn at least the cost of their own support; (3) a working home for the boarding and lodging of those needing and wishing its care and benefits at cost, after learning a trade, as well as the gratuitous boarding and lodging of learners for a limited time; (4) a free school for the teaching of reading, writing, typewriting, etc., and affording some training in vocal and instrumental music and other minor branches; and (5) a free lending library for the blind of Michigan, at their homes, as well as at the Institution.

It is not an asylum or retreat for the permanent free maintenance of aged or helpless blind persons, nor a hospital or infirmary for the cure or treatment of blindness or other maladies; but an agency to enable worthy blind people to share in the useful activities of life. It very properly gives chief attention to vocational instruction, training and employment. The daily output of its manufacturing department includes from 50 to 75 dozen corn brooms, toy brooms and whisks in considerable variety and of excellent quality, which are promptly sold on their merits in the open market, thus recovering the cost of the raw materials and the wages paid to the sightless artisans. Its trained piano-tuners are winning success in various parts of the State. Those desiring tuft or other rugs made or chairs caned, etc., are invited to remember that blind women earn their livelihood by such work at this Institution.

For further information apply to Superintendent Frank G. Putnam, or Librarian Ambrose M. Shotwell, Institution for the Blind, Saginaw West Side, Mich.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

To His Excellency, Chase S. Osborn, Governor of the State of Michigan,
and the Honorable Legislature of the State of Michigan.

Gentlemen: The Board of Trustees of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind herewith respectfully submit their fifth biennial report for the period ending June 30, 1912.

January, 1911, the Honorable F. Bruce Smith was re-appointed a member of the Board for the period of six years, subsequently, he was re-elected secretary of the Board. For the first time in the history of the Institution the personnel of the Board has remained unchanged for full biennial period.

Mr. Frank G. Putnam, who was appointed superintendent, May 9, 1910 for the period ending July 1, 1911 was re-appointed for the succeeding year, and so it transpires that the members of the Board and the superintendent have worked together for more than two years. The mutually satisfactory relations and intelligent co-operation have been reflected in the improved conditions at the Institution and the increased average attendance. The inmates and those contemplating entering the Institution have appreciated that the policy had reasonable stability and that no changes except in the direction of progress need be expected.

Superintendent Putnam came to the Institution without previous experience in like work. He was a thorough master of the broom business which still remains the principal industry. He has developed the other qualities which the Board feel make him peculiarly fitted for the work. As a disciplinarian he received such training as nine years service in the United States army affords. He insists on reasonable discipline but is ever mindful of the comfort and happiness of the inmates, and affords such latitude as is not inconsistent with justice to all and the greatest good to the greatest number.

The growing business of the Institution proves his business ability and the details contained in the superintendent's report are referred to with pardonable pride by the Board.

The buildings which have now been in use for eight years are well adapted to the purposes for which they were intended, but as in former reports we are constrained to call attention to the fact that the superintendent's cottage, which was provided for in the original plan, and subsequently eliminated, is now a necessity that can scarcely be dispensed with. The rooms in the administration building, now occupied by the superintendent were originally designed for other purposes and they are badly needed for the accommodations of the piano tuning department and the library. Piano tuning is one of the most important vocations that a blind person who is fitted for it, can take up, and the instruction should be afforded under the best possible conditions. The present piano tuning department in the factory building lacks nearly every essential.

The library serves not only the blind people of the Institution, but

of the state as well. It must be added to from time to time, and the present quarters are inadequate for the books it now contains. We feel that the appropriation asked for the library is reasonable, and that it will commend itself to the spirit of liberality that has placed Michigan in the front rank of states in its care for its blind people.

The need of the superintendent's cottage could be urged solely on the ground that it is essential for the proper accomodation of the superintendent and his family. The appropriation for this purpose, which is asked for, has a hearty approval of the Board of Corrections and Charities.

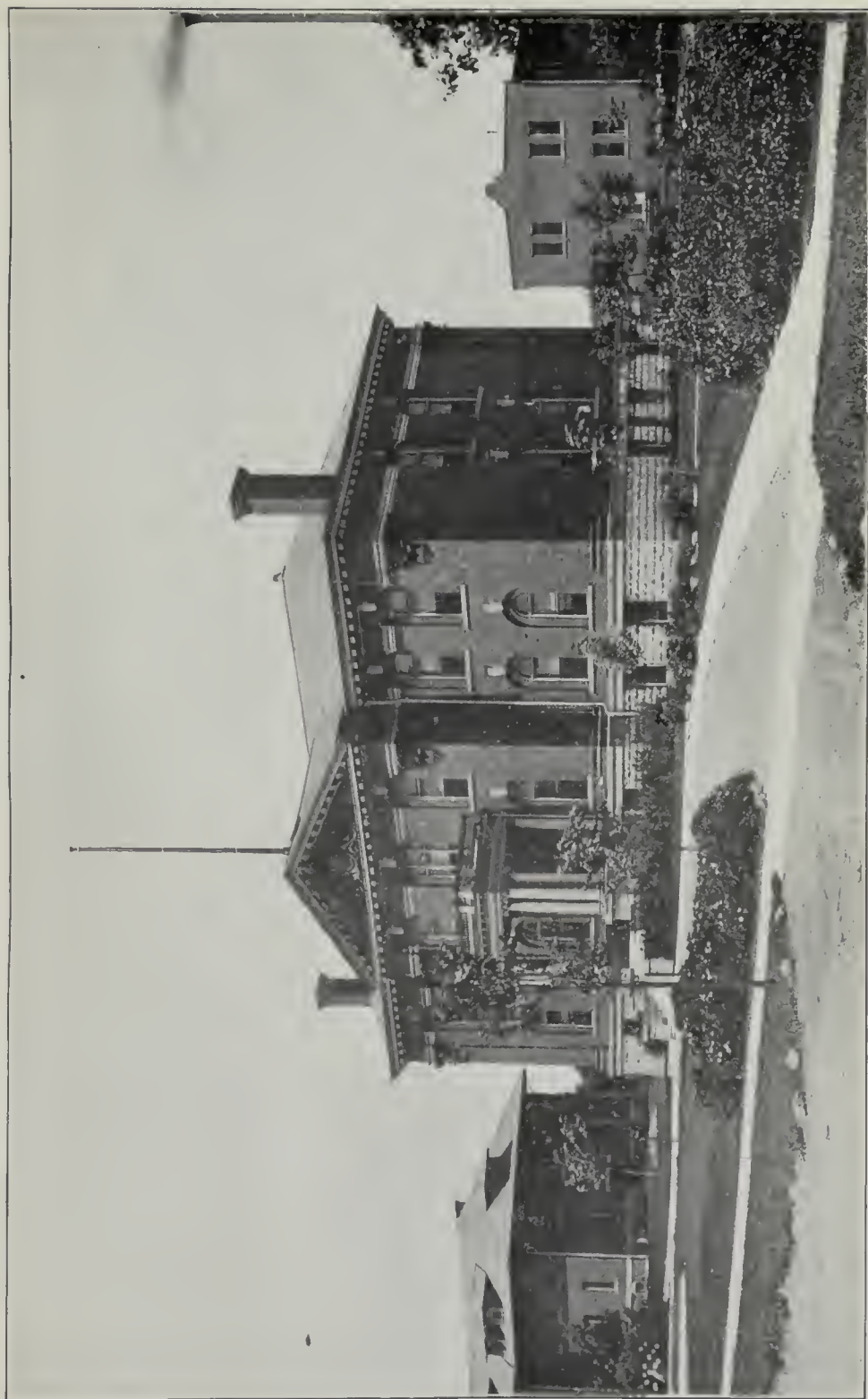
The addition to the factory which was completed late in 1910 affords the room that was then much needed. A further addition to the factory will be imperative in the near future but need not be urged at this time.

The installation of a smoke consumer made possible by a special appropriation in 1911 has obviated the smoke nuisance.

The appropriation asked for the up-keep of the buildings, mentioned in detail in the superintendent's report is essential. Exterior wood-work must be painted to preserve it and the interiors of the buildings should be freshened up from time to time in order that they may afford the comfort and sanitary conditions to which those who come to the Institution are entitled.

The reduction in the per capita cost of maintenance for each of the past two years is gratifying in view of the high cost of living and is attributable not only to good management and buying but also to the profitableness of the business enterprises which afford employment to the blind people in the Institution. The methods employed in the Auditor General's department for determining per capita cost give an erroneous impression with reference to this Institution. That method is to divide the total expense except expense for buildings by the average number belonging. This makes the per capita cost for the year ending June 30, 1911, \$750.14, and for the year ending June 30, 1912, \$731.67. The sum appropriated by the State for each of these years was \$25,000 and \$28,000 respectively. There was no deficit. Dividing \$25,000 by 78, the average number belonging for the year ending June 30, 1911, the per capita cost would be \$320.50. Dividing \$28,000 by 88, the average number belonging for the year ending June 30, 1912, and the per capita cost would be \$318.18. The difference between the actual per capita cost for the year ending June 30, 1911, and the per capita cost as indicated in the Auditor General's department is \$429.64 and might be more properly designated as per capita earnings. For the year ending June 30, 1912, the difference is \$413.49 which might be more properly designated as per capita earnings. The difference between the per capita earnings for the two years is attributable to the larger number of apprentices or learners who enter the Institution in the last year.

It should always be borne in mind that the Institution is both a technical or vocational school and a working home. It frequently happens that those who are wage earners in one line of work are apprentices in another. The maintenance is afforded for twelve months in a year. It includes every necessary expense except for clothing. The net per capita cost should be compared with the per capita cost



West Hall.

Administration Building.

Factory.



which would include the same maintenance in technical or vocational schools for sighted people. Then if due consideration is given to some obvious fact that blind people necessarily acquire technical skill more slowly than sighted people, and that adults learn more slowly than children, we think that the people of the state will appreciate that the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind is doing good work for a peculiarly unfortunate class at a very reasonable cost.

We believe that the educational work which the Institution is doing should be emphasized more and more. The working home feature is and will always remain a boon to many, but the technical education which will enable blind men and blind women to be independent in homes outside of the Institution is the goal which should be reached whenever possible.

The Board has held regular meetings each month during this biennial period, and has given such attention to the matters of the Institution as seem necessary. The utmost harmony has prevailed both among members of the Board and the Board and the Superintendent. There have been situations to meet and obstacles to overcome. The results obtained have been due to the hearty co-operation of the Board and Superintendent.

It is a source of gratification that for the ensuing period we can recommend an appropriation of \$25,000 per year instead of \$28,000.

The advantages that would result from the creation of a revolving fund for which ~~an~~ appropriation is asked, would in our opinion make a still further reduction in annual appropriations possible. The business of the Institution cannot be conducted under the best conditions unless there is a working capital. This is but another name for the revolving fund for which authorization is asked.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed)

JOSEPH HUDSON, President,

HENRY H. CHATTERS, Treasurer,

F. BRUCE SMITH, Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

In account with H. H. Chatters, Treasurer, for year ending June 30, 1911

	Dr.	Cr.
Current expense:		
Salaries and wages	\$2,290 00	
Food	7,303 49	
Laundry expenses	500 59	
Heating and light	3,578 74	
Medical supplies	158 58	
Office stationery, etc	1,004 52	
Amusement and instruction	888 88	
Furniture and household supplies	1,547 40	
Carriage, barn and vehicles	1,541 96	
Improvement and repairs	643 85	
Machinery	190 40	
Farm, garden and stock	45 43	
Miscellaneous expenses	899 73	
Industrial training expenses	37,876 32	
Floral, greenhouse and grounds	40 75	
Special purposes	450 00	
Painting	1,025 00	
Warehouse	2,103 58	
Balance June 30, 1910, current expenses		\$25,000 00
From State Treasurer, current expense		500 01
Balance June 30, 1910, special accounts.		
Superintendent		31,880 67
Industrial training		3,882 57
Miscellaneous		1,000 00
Special expenses, warehouse		125 94
Balance June 30, 1911		
Total	\$62,389 19	\$62,389 19

TREASURER'S REPORT.

MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

In account with H. H. Chatters, Treasurer, for year ending June 30, 1912.

	Dr.	Cr.
Current expenses:		
Salaries and wages	\$2,590 00	
Food	8,584 82	
Laundry expenses	463 65	
Heating and light	3,795 79	
Medical supplies	122 91	
Office stationery, etc.	1,103 19	
Amusement and instruction	998 25	
Furniture and household supplies	2,146 44	
Carriage, barn and vehicles	1,338 66	
Improvement and repairs	868 14	
Machinery	83 23	
Farm, garden and stock	104 73	
Miscellaneous expenses	521 84	
Industrial training expenses	41,665 20	
Special purposes:		
Automatic stoker	472 68	
Balance June 30, 1912, current expenses	1,243 17	
Balance June 30, 1912, special accounts	435 27	
Balance June 30, 1911, current expenses	125 94	
From State Treasurer, current expenses		\$28,000 00
From State Treasurer, special accounts, automatic stoker		1,500 00
Superintendent:		
Industrial training		32,449 33
Miscellaneous		4,695 32
Food		19 05
Household supplies		21
Total	\$66,663 91	\$66,663 91

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind.

Gentlemen: I have the honor to hereby submit for your consideration, the superintendent's biennial report of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind, for the period ending June 30, 1912.

During the two years covering this period, I feel that much has been done towards advancing the interests of the blind inmates, and much accomplished as well, from a financial and business standpoint. Our record for this period shows increased attendance and enrollment, thereby demonstrating our success in accomplishing the purpose for which this Institution was established, and in putting the industrial and educational problem on a substantial footing,—thus enabling Michigan to uplift and assist the worthy blind people of the state.

ATTENDANCE.

The attendance and enrollment of the Institution is steadily growing as is evident by appended report of attendance. The total enrollment for the eight years we have been in existence is as follows:

From November, 1904, to June 30, 1905,	46 men; 5 girls,—total	51.
From July 1, 1905, to June 30, 1906,	66 men; 15 girls,—total	81.
From July 1, 1906, to June 30, 1907,	68 men; 20 girls,—total	88.
From July 1, 1907, to June 30, 1908,	76 men; 26 girls,—total	102.
From July 1, 1908, to June 30, 1910,	86 men; 32 girls,—total	118.
From July 1, 1910, to June 30, 1912,	79 men; 32 girls,—total	111.

You will notice from above that the total enrollment for the last period is less than for the period preceding. However, the average attendance for the period from July 1, 1910, to June 30, 1912, is higher than in any former years, owing to the fact that conditions prevailing during the last two years were much better than ever before, and those who did enter and were in the Institution remained to a greater extent than in the former years and did not come and go as much as formerly.

PER CAPITA COST.

The actual per capita cost to the state, based on ordinary expenses, the yearly appropriation of \$25,000 for the years 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, and the appropriation of \$28,000 for 1912, and the average attendance for the fiscal year ending June 30th, are given in the appended report following:

1906.		1907.		1908.		1909.		1910.	
No.	Amt.	No.	Amt.	No.	Amt.	No.	Amt.	No.	Amt.
47	\$531.92	51	\$490.20	70	\$357.14	76	\$328.16	56	\$446.43
		1911.		1912.					
		No.	Amt.	No.	Amt.				
		78	\$320.50	88	\$318.18				

You will note from above a gradual reduction in per capita cost of maintenance to the state, and the coming biennial period will be still less, as we are asking \$3,000 per year less for our current expense appropriation, notwithstanding the fact that our enrollment is and will be higher than former years. We are enabled to do this, owing to the good business and financial results in our industrial departments. The past two years work has been one of steady progress, and the general good spirit and feeling of our blind workers of both sexes prove that these results are appreciated by them.

INDUSTRIES.

Broom and whisk making is by far the most profitable and principal industry, employing a large number of the inmates; that is, our male inmates, and at least 25 per cent of the female inmates; 85 per cent of whom are on the pay rolls at the piece price scale of wages. Our skilled workers and sewers of broom and whisk average from \$15 to \$25 per month, over and above paying for their board and laundry. Others who work at preparing and sorting the raw material for making brooms and whisks, will average from \$5 to \$15 per month above their board, etc.

Our present output of brooms is about 50 dozen per day of all grades, not including from 12 to 24 dozens of whisk and toy brooms. We are finding a very ready sale for our output at good prices, which show a small profit to the Institution each month.

RUG WEAVING.

During the past two years our rug weaving and chair caning departments have shown a steady increase in the amount of work turned out and the wages earned by our blind workers in that department. We have added, during this period, a new line of fancy colonial bath and boudoir rugs, which are finding a very ready sale in different parts of the state.

The chair caning department is also showing very satisfactory results, and is the means of giving a large number of our blind women remunerative employment. We turn out from 75 to 100 chairs per month, which are gathered up from the townspeople of the city.

PIANO TUNING.

Our blind piano tuners, who have received instructions and graduated from the piano tuning department, are increasing their list of satisfied patrons, and within the past two years our Institution has been awarded, by the Board of Education, a contract for tuning the pianos of the Public Schools of this city, Mr. Joseph Henriaty, our blind instructor, having been selected for this work. After leaving for his new field at Halifax, Nova Scotia, the work has devolved on his successor, Mr. Henry C. Kettle, our new piano tuning instructor.

Within the past two years we have succeeded in placing two graduates from our piano tuning department in large piano factories at good salaries. Only recently Mr. Joseph Henriaty, our blind piano tuning teacher, through the efforts and recommendations of the writer, has succeeded in being appointed to the position of instructor of piano tun-

ing, broom making, chair caning, etc., in the Halifax School for the Young Blind, Halifax, Nova Scotia, at a salary of \$900.00 per year. Mr. Henriaty is the second blind person who has received an appointment in schools for the young blind from this Institution.

The same might be said of other departments here. I have in mind one person in particular, who only recently wrote me of the great benefit derived from advantages given in this Institution, and I will take the liberty of quoting from his letter, under date of August 22, 1912.

"Superintendent F. G. Putnam, Saginaw W. S., Michigan.

My Dear Sir—A resident of this place, Mr. Edward Jeffery, who is blind, desires to enter your Institution and learn a trade. He has been blind for several years and does not make much progress with farm work, which he has always done. Will you kindly forward me blanks for entrance to your Institution and also give him any other information you can?

I spent six weeks at the Institution a few years ago and at that time learned enough so that I was able to return to my business and conduct it the same as before losing my sight, hence, I consider it a good place for others.

Awaiting your esteemed reply, I beg to remain,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) TOM F. ROBINSON,

Publisher and Editor of the Union City Weekly."

In this connection, will state that Mr. Robinson came to this Institution in almost utter despair, having recently become blind, and feeling that this world held nothing more for him. He has always been an active man, being the publisher and editor of the above mentioned paper. After having spent six weeks in the Institution, learning typewriting, reading and writing the Braille Point System, in which he became proficient, he was able to return to his home and business and is now actively engaged in publishing his paper.

I have received several very encouraging letters, along the same line from our former inmates. However, it cannot be expected that all blind people who come here will be quite as successful as the above mentioned cases, to the extent that they could return to their homes and conduct their business or carry on their trade independently, but, by being taught these trades here and remaining in the Institution as wage earners at the regular piece price scale of wages, they become self-respecting and self-supporting members of society.

MUSIC.

Our music department while keeping up a high standard as in previous years is also becoming a little more elastic to serve the needs of the individual pupil.

The vocal work meets with commendation every time our chorus performs in public and the training given is enabling a number of our best performers to earn some money during their vacations and at other times, and their services have been in demand for church concerts and entertainments.

In addition to vocal and piano music, which is being taught, a number of our male pupils are learning to play the violin, cornet and other instruments. We have had several entertainments, each year, literary and musical, which have been a source of great entertainment and amusement to our people in the Institution, as well as outside friends, which has a tendency to assist in keeping up good feeling and contentment among our people.

NEEDS.

I again desire to call your attention to the great need of quarters for our tuning department, for as you know, the rooms originally intended for that purpose are now being utilized for the superintendent's living quarters. The only available room for tuning purposes is located on the second floor of the broom factory and is subject to all the confusion arising from the machinery and noise of the factory. This room is adjoining our wood work shop, in which is located a power rip saw, emery wheel, and other noise producing machinery, which greatly prevents the successful and effective work and instruction being done, as the foreign noises and sounds confuse the beginner, who is having his ear trained to tone and harmony. Our tuning department is one of the most valuable, inasmuch as it is one of the most remunerative trades we teach, and is well adapted to the blind. At the present time there is no suitable place available, but a place should be provided as soon as possible.

Michigan is taking her place in the front rank in this work, and we are being watched by our city, state and other countries. We are in receipt of a good many inquiries concerning our plan of work, the general plan and location of our buildings, and other things of interest to those states entering this line of work.

I also desire to call your attention to the Superintendent's living quarters. The old plan from which the Institution was taken originally included in the group the Superintendent's cottage, and for this reason no provision was ever made to accommodate the Superintendent and his family otherwise. The cottage was left to the last, and, owing to some technicality, was not built, and the \$7,000 intended for that purpose being turned back into the State Treasury. The rooms now occupied by the Superintendent and his family are very inadequate, as they were intended for tuning rooms and library. They consist of three rooms on the second floor of the Administration Building, and are so situated that there is no privacy, opening, as they do, into the hall of the chapel and assembly room, not even a bath or toilet room being provided.

Leaving out the consideration of the Superintendent's quarters the buildings are admirably adapted to the purposes for which they were intended, and I am constantly reminded of the wise judgment and careful forethought shown by the arrangement of our group of buildings, and especially to the Honorable Joseph Hudson, who has given his undivided attention to the welfare and happiness of the inmates and Institution since it was first established.

IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS.

The interior as well as exterior of our buildings are very much in the need of repainting, more especially so the walls and ceilings of the

Men and Women's Dormitories, as well as the Administration Building. It will have been three years since any outside painting of the wood work of our buildings has been done, and it seems advisable to have this work done during the coming year to keep our buildings up and in proper condition, as they should be at all times.

In this connection I will call your attention to the fact that the Deputy State Factory Inspector has ordered us to install one fire escape at the east end of each of our dormitories, leading from the third story, on account of the unsafe condition of these floors, in case of fire.

CONVENTIONS.

It will be our pleasure to entertain during the first week of September, this year, the Michigan Blind People's Branch of the American Association of Workers for the Blind. The biennial convention will be held in the assembly room of our Institution at that time, and delegates and members of this association from all parts of Michigan and from outside states are expected to be present. Questions of vital interest pertaining to the education and employment of the blind will be discussed.

It was my pleasure, in company with Mr. A. M. Shotwell, librarian, to represent this Institution at the National Convention of the American Association of Workers for the Blind, which was held at the Overbrook School for the Blind at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in June, 1911. There was a large attendance of workers for the blind from almost every state in the Union as well as delegates from foreign countries.

A large number of papers were read and subjects discussed at this convention and a careful comparison of the work of conducting and giving employment to the blind throughout the civilized world, will show that the United States leads and that Michigan holds her own in the front ranks in the work being done. As a matter of fact, the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind at Saginaw, Michigan, was mentioned a great many times as an example in what was being done along the lines of education and employment for adult blind people.

CHANGES IN FACULTY AND MINOR OFFICES.

In any institution where a staff of teachers and officers are employed changes will of necessity be made from time to time. During the month of April of the present year Miss Ora Waite, matron, resigned, and Miss Bessie M. Sutherland, a graduate nurse and person of considerable and varied experience in managing household affairs in other institutions, was appointed to fill the vacancy. Miss Sutherland has given splendid satisfaction and shown excellent results in handling affairs of our large household.

In this connection I desire to express my gratitude for the very liberal and businesslike manner in which your body has refused to allow outside influence to be brought to bear in the filling of minor offices here. It is absolutely essential that the Superintendent and his assistants work in complete unison to get the best results, all of which your honorable body has kept in mind.

We are indebted to the ministers of Saginaw, who have so generously donated their services at our chapel exercises on Sunday afternoons; to the musicians and people generally, who have so kindly given us their



Sorting and Preparing Broom Corn.





Winding Brooms.



Sewing Brooms.





Clipping and Bunching Brooms.





Product of Broom Shop.





Delivering Brooms.



time and talent in providing entertainment for our people; to the management of the Saginaw-Bay City Railway Company for their free use of special cars, so generously donated, and the Saginaw Board of Trade and the Auditorium management for entertainments furnished gratis to our people from time to time. To the officers, teachers and employes of this Institution I desire to express my hearty appreciation for the faithfulness which has so characterized their work during this period, and more especially would I express to your Board my appreciation of the wise counsel, kindly consideration and worthy co-operation which has been given me in my work here.

Respectfully submitted,
FRANK G. PUTNAM.

ESTIMATES OF APPROPRIATIONS.

MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

Saginaw, Michigan, July 15, 1912.

To the State Board of Corrections and Charities, Lansing, Mich:

Gentlemen—I submit below the estimates of appropriations, made by the Board of this institution, for the two years beginning July 1, 1913, as provided by Section 2228, Compiled Laws 1897, with a statement of our expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1912.

Summary of Appropriations needed for each of the two years beginning July 1, 1913:

CURRENT EXPENSES.

First year	\$62,019 50
Second year	62,019 50
Total	\$124,039 00
Estimated earnings	74,039 00
Appropriation needed for the two years named above.....	\$50,000 00

On the basis of the following classification:

Items.	Estimated needs for first of above years.	Amount expended during year ending June 30, 1912.
1. Salaries and wages	\$7,572 00	\$6,996 50
Sub. items.		
Superintendent.....	\$2,000 00	
Assistant superintendent.....	420 00	
Physician.....	250 00	
Bookkeeper.....	600 00	
Matron.....	600 00	
Assistant librarian and reader.....	240 00	
Visitor's attendant.....	120 00	
Music.....	120 00	
Piano tuning.....	360 00	
Watchman, night engineer.....	600 00	
Cook.....	600 00	
Janitor, chore boy.....	120 00	
Housemaids, 6 at \$14 a month.....	1,008 00	
Hallmaids, 2 at \$16.....	384 00	
Seamstress.....	150 00	
2. Food.....	8,000 00	7,354 82
4. Laundry expenses.....	500 00	463 65

CURRENT EXPENSES.—Continued.

Items.	Estimated needs for first of above years.	Amount expended during year ending June 30, 1912.
Supplies.....	\$80 00	
Labor, laundress and help.....	420 00	
5. Heating and light.....	\$3,500 00	\$3,255 79
Material, fuel, lamps, etc.....	\$2,600 00	
Labor, engineer.....	900 00	
6. Floral, greenhouse and grounds.....	175 00	175 00
Material and water rate.....		
7. Medical expenses.....	150 00	122 91
Supplies.....	150 00	
8. Office, stationery, etc.....	500 00	563 00
9. Amusement and instruction.....	150 00	150 00
10. Furniture and household supplies.....	1,500 00	2,146 44
11. Carriage harness and vehicles, including salary.....	1,350 00	1,338 66
12. Improvement and repairs including carpenter.....	1,000 00	863 14
13. Machinery.....	150 00	83 23
14. Farm, garden and stock.....	260 00	250 00
Farmers and gardeners (regularly employed; number, salary paid each)		
1 gardener 7 months.....	\$245 00	
Tools, implements, vehicles and material.....	5 00	
Seeds and plants.....	10 00	
15. Miscellaneous expenses.....	550 00	521 84
16. Industrial training.....	36,662 50	38,665 20
Factory foreman.....	\$720 00	
Teacher, broommaking.....	480 00	
Teacher, weaving and eaning.....	600 00	
Raw material and supplies.....	34,862 50	
Totals.....	\$62,019 50	\$62,955 18
Estimated earnings.....	37,019 50	37,163 91
Appropriations needed.....	\$25,000 00	\$25,791 27

GENERAL STATISTICS.

	1911.	1912.
Total number of inmates each year of the biennial period ending June 30, 1912.....	104	103
Average number of inmates each year of the biennial period ending June 30, 1912	78	88
Per capita cost to the State for each year of the biennial period ending June 30, 1912	\$320 50	\$318 18
Estimated total number of inmates each year of the biennial period ending June 30, 1915.....	1st. 115	2nd. 120
Estimated average number of inmates each year of the biennial period ending June 30, 1915.....	95	100
Estimated per capita cost to the State for each year of the biennial period ending June 30, 1915, based on "estimated needs," \$25,000.00.....	\$263 16	\$250 00

SPECIAL APPROPRIATION NEEDED.

We give below the aggregate of each; the details and items required by Section 2228, Compiled Laws, 1897, we submit on accompanying sheets.

1. For erection, fitting, and furnishing of Superintendent's cottage, . . .	\$8,500 00
2. For re-painting and decorating of Administration building, mens' and womens' dormitories, interior and exterior, and re-painting exterior of Factory building.....	1,100 00
3. For repairing, heating and underground piping, running from central plant to administration building and two (2) dormitory buildings	250 00
4. For two (2) fire escapes, one (1) from the third stories of each of the two (2) dormitories, which floors were pronounced unsafe by the State Factory Inspector and ordered not to be used for blind inmates until fire escapes had been installed.....	250 00
5. Revolving Stock Fund, to be used for the purchase of raw materials for the industrial departments, to be made a permanent fund, renewed from the sales of brooms and other manufactured wares since the cost of material and much of the wages paid to the blind artisans are returned through the sales of output and hence should not enter into the per capita cost, and since the plan would enable us to purchase advantageously by reason of prompt payments, low markets, etc. Legislation but no appropriation needed as we can build up this fund from proceeds of sales.....	10,000 00
6. For Free Lending Library for the Blind, procuring reading matter, repairs, etc., as per amounts submitted on accompanying sheet.....	2,000 00

For Free Circulating and Lending Library for the Blind of Michigan, as required by Sec. 13, Act 169, P. A. 1903.

As follows:

For first year	\$1,000 00
Procuring embossed finding list or catalogs of books.....	\$100 00
For re-binding and repairing worn out books that are in frequent demand	100 00
For procuring suitable mailing cases and cover boards for the protection of embossed books and pamphlets while in transit in the mails to and from readers throughout the State	100 00
For new shelving and disinfecting case for books.....	100 00
For procuring new reading matter, embossed books.....	600 00
For second year.....	1,000 00
For procuring new reading matter, embossed books.	

Note.—This library is required by law to be maintained by this institution for the benefit of the blind in the State at large and hence its expense should not figure in per capita cost of maintenance of inmates of the institution.

FRANK G. PUTNAM,
Superintendent.

MICHIGAN BOARD OF CORRECTIONS AND CHARITIES.

Lansing, October 30, 1912.

Frank G. Putnam, Superintendent, Michigan Employment Institution
for the Blind, Saginaw, Michigan:

Dear Sir—At a meeting of the Michigan State Board of Corrections and Charities held in Lansing October 24, 1912, your estimate, dated July 15, 1912, of the needs of your institution for the biennial period ending June 30, 1915, was considered and approved; and the Board at the same time commended your proposition to create a "Revolving Stock Fund" from profits on sales, limiting, however, the size of the fund to be so created to an amount not to exceed five thousand dollars; and recommended that authority be given for the transfer of net earnings now on hand, and to be in the future accumulated, to create and keep intact the proposed "Revolving Fund."

Very respectfully,

DAYTON PARKER,

Chairman.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

	1911.	1912.
Total number of inmates each year of the biennial period ending June 30, 1912	104	10
Average number of inmates each year of the biennial period ending June 30, 1912	78	8
Per capita cost to the State for each year of the biennial period ending June 30, 1912	\$320 50	\$318 1
Estimated total number of inmates each year of the biennial period ending June 30, 1915.....	1st. 115	2nd. 12
Estimated average number of inmates each year of the biennial period ending June 30, 1915.....	95	10
Estimated per capita cost to the State for each year of the biennial period ending June 30, 1915, based on "estimated needs," \$25,000.00.....	\$263 16	\$250 0

SPECIAL APPROPRIATION NEEDED.

We give below the aggregate of each; the details and items required by Section 2228 Compiled Laws, 1897, we submit on accompanying sheets.

1. For erection, fitting, and furnishing of Superintendent's cottage..... \$8,500 0
2. For re-painting and decorating of Administration building, mens' and womens' dormitories, interior and exterior, and re-painting exterior of Factory building..... 1,100 00
3. For repairing, heating and underground piping, running from central plant to administration building and two (2) dormitory buildings..... 250 00
4. For two (2) fire escapes, one (1) from the third stories of each of the two (2) dormitories, which floors were pronounced unsafe by the State Factory Inspector and ordered not to be used for blind inmates until fire escapes had been installed..... 250 0
5. Revolving Stock Fund, to be used for the purchase of raw materials for the industrial departments, to be made a permanent fund, renewed from the sales of brooms and other manufactured wares since the cost of material and much of the wages paid to the blind artisans are returned through the sales of output and hence should not enter into the per capita cost, and since the plan would enable us to purchase advantageously by reason of prompt payments, low markets, etc. Legislation but no appropriation needed as we can build up this fund from proceeds of sales..... 10,000 0
6. For Free Lending Library for the Blind, procuring reading matter, repairs, etc., as per amounts submitted on accompanying sheet..... 2,000 0

For Free Circulating and Lending Library for the Blind of Michigan, as required by Sec. 13, Act 169, P. A. 1903.

As follows:

For first year	\$1,000 0
Procuring embossed finding list or catalogs of books.....	\$100 00
For re-binding and repairing worn out books that are in frequent demand	100 00
For procuring suitable mailing cases and cover boards for the protection of embossed books and pamphlets while in transit in the mails to and from readers throughout the State	100 00
For new shelving and disinfecting case for books.....	100 00
For procuring new reading matter, embossed books.....	600 00
For second year	1,000 00
For procuring new reading matter, embossed books.....	

Note. This library is required by law to be maintained by this institution for the benefit of the blind in the State at large and hence its expense should not figure in per capita cost of maintenance of inmates of the institution.

FRANK G. PUTNAM,
Superintendent.

MICHIGAN BOARD OF CORRECTIONS AND CHARITIES.

Lansing, October 30, 1912.

Frank G. Putnam, Superintendent, Michigan Employment Institution
for the Blind, Saginaw, Michigan:

Dear Sir—At a meeting of the Michigan State Board of Corrections and Charities held in Lansing October 24, 1912, your estimate, dated July 15, 1912, of the needs of your institution for the biennial period ending June 30, 1915, was considered and approved; and the Board at the same time commended your proposition to create a "Revolving Stock Fund" from profits on sales, limiting, however, the size of the fund to be so created to an amount not to exceed five thousand dollars; and recommended that authority be given for the transfer of net earnings now on hand, and to be in the future accumulated, to create and keep intact the proposed "Revolving Fund."

Very respectfully,

DAYTON PARKER.

Chairman.

INMATES IN ATTENDANCE DURING BIENNIAL PERIOD.

MALE.

Name.	Place.	County.
1. Arnold, Elmer	Charlevoix	Charlevoix.
2. Alger, Frank	Clare	Clare.
3. Anderson, Nels C.	Escanaba	Delta.
4. Avery, William D.	Grass Lake	Jackson.
5. Benit, William	Detroit	Wayne.
6. Boisvert, William A.	Essexville	Bay.
7. Blair, Thomas B.	Detroit	Wayne.
8. Butler, Charles A.	Battle Creek	Calhoun.
9. Bruce, Charles L.	Niles	Berrien.
10. Carveth, De Witt C.	Lowell	Kent.
11. Cox, Henry	Grand Rapids	Kent.
12. Coyceow, Edward	Bay City	Bay.
13. Callam, John C.	Ironwood	Gogebie.
14. Dickey, Edward	Detroit	Wayne.
15. Dauttror, Joseph	Lansing	Ingham.
16. De Groot, John	Grand Rapids	Kent.
17. Driscoll, John	Houghton	Houghton.
18. Edwards, George	Saginaw	Saginaw.
19. Limmons, Bion L.	Berrien Springs	Berrien.
20. Frank, Albertus	Galesburg	Kalamazoo.
21. Fuller, Earl H.	St. Charles	Saginaw.
22. Gruber, Harry	Battle Creek	Calhoun.
23. Groth, Henry	Manistee	Manistee.
24. Geary, Michael	Hancock	Houghton.
25. Harriott, George A.	Saginaw	Saginaw.
26. Henriaty, Joseph P.	Norway	Dickinson.
27. Hunt, George J.	Iron Mountain	Dickinson.
28. Huff, Elba M.	Caledonia	Kent.
29. Hager, Frank J.	Quincy	Branch
30. Hill, Harry	Saginaw	Saginaw.
31. Hetterschied, James C.	Grand Rapids	Kent.
32. Hess, John R.	Bay City	Bay.
33. Haslip, Malvin E.	Lansing	Ingham.
34. Houvori, Waino	Sault Ste. Marie	Chippewa.
35. Harding, Charles L.	Howard City	Montcalm.
36. Johnston, Iver	Crystal Falls	Iron.
37. Kay, William	Port Huron	St. Clair.
38. Kettle, Henry	Detroit	Wayne.
39. Kennison, William	Sand Lake	Montcalm.
40. Keen, Milton	St. Joseph	Berrien.
41. Kofron, Joseph	Crystal Falls	Iron.
42. Kelly, George	Orleans	Ionia.
43. Krough, Christian Nelson	Laurium	Houghton.
44. Keppler, Charles	Lake Linden	Houghton.
45. Kennel, David	Pigeon	Huron.
46. La Mere, William	Laurium	Houghton.
47. Lape, Charles A.	Grand Rapids	Kent.
48. McConnell, William	Lansing	Ingham.
49. Molle, Constance J.	Nadeau	Menominee.
50. Martin, Grant J.	Menominee	Menominee.
51. Moore, William F.	Detroit	Wayne.
52. Moore, Clarence	Coleman	Midland.
53. Madison, Jeremiah H.	Detroit	Wayne.
54. Mur, Edwin	Niagara Falls	Ontario.
55. Munson, Gardner D.	Stanton	Montcalm.
56. Mitte, Truman W.	Saginaw	Saginaw.
57. Miller, Albert P.	Detroit	Wayne.
58. Malcolm, Rodney	Ann Arbor	Washtenaw.
59. Nichols, Frank	Menominee	Menominee.
60. Nichols, Orin S.	Vestaberg	Montcalm.

INMATES IN ATTENDANCE DURING BIENNIAL PERIOD.

MALE.

Name.	Place.	County.
61. Orth, Lester R.....	Henderson.....	Shiawassee.
62. Perkins, Warren.....	Plymouth.....	Wayne.
63. Pettinger, Claude J.....	Petoskey.....	Eminet.
64. Rinehardt, Daniel C.....	Grand Rapids.....	Kent.
65. Persons, Albert A.....	Alpena.....	Alpena.
66. Ransford, Charles E.....	Flint.....	Genesee.
67. Spencer, James B.....	Ann Arbor.....	Washtenaw.
68. Schraft, Fred.....	Lansing.....	Ingham.
69. Strand, John.....	Reed City.....	Osceola.
70. Smith, Robert R.....	Perry.....	Shiawassee.
71. Schuknecht, William.....	Detroit.....	Wayne.
72.* Stevens, William.....	Bay City.....	Bay.
73. Sudrow, George W.....	Grand Rapids.....	Kent.
74. Schleif, John.....	Detroit.....	Wayne.
75. Schultz, Herman.....	Orleans.....	Ionia.
76. Shotwell, Ambrose M.....	Concord.....	Jackson.
77. Shotwell, George W.....	Santiago.....	Arenac.
78. Shipley, Walter.....	Battle Creek.....	Calhoun.
79. Tuck, John.....	Jamestown.....	Saginaw.
80. Thompson, Riley.....	Kent City.....	Kent.
81. Tennyson, Joseph.....	Constantine.....	St. Joseph.
82. Van Duser, Irvin.....	Bay City.....	Bay.
83. Vanderbilt, Riley.....	Lenox.....	Macomb.
84. Walters, William.....	Hillsdale.....	Hillsdale.
85. Wagner, Bernard.....	Detroit.....	Wayne.
86. Wyatt, John E.....	Rudyard.....	Chippewa.
87. Willis, Frank.....	Ann Arbor.....	Washtenaw.
88. Wedel, George R.....	Niles.....	Berrien.
89. Williams, Henry R.....	Saginaw.....	Saginaw.
90. Whittig, Joseph K.....	Grand Rapids.....	Kent.
91. Yager, Lester.....	Rosebush.....	Isabella.
92. Youtz, Raymond.....	Monroe.....	Monroe.
93. Zander, Albert.....	Daggett.....	Menominee.
94. Zeilstra, Gerhardt.....	Grand Rapids.....	Kent.

*Deceased.

STATE OF MICHIGAN.

INMATES IN ATTENDANCE DURING BIENNIAL PERIOD.

FEMALE.

Name.	Place.	County.
1. Arnold, Evelyn	Burton	Shiawassee.
2. Bock, Theresa	Tittabawassee.	Saginaw.
3. Burroughs, Jessie M.	Marcellus	Cass.
4. Churchlull, Mabel	Lansing	Ingham.
5. Cowden, Ethel	Rosebush	Isabella.
6. Dnbay, Ida A.	Pine River	Gratiot.
7. Dusenberry, Jennie	Troy	Oakland.
8. Dickey, Berta Steward	Lakesport	St. Clair.
9. Doster, Maude E.	Berrien Springs	Berrien.
10. Edwards, Eleena	Saginaw	Saginaw.
11. Edmonds, Alma J.	Lansing	Ingham.
12. Fitzpatrick, Jennie B.	Battle Creek	Calhoun.
13. Gantluer, Agnes	Detroit	Wayne.
14. Hamilton, Emma L.	Ann Arbor	Washtenaw.
15. Hartger, Susan L.	Holland	Allegan.
16. Hicks, May	Saginaw	Saginaw.
17. Keeler, Gertrude L.	Lindington	Mason.
18. Klavitor, Clara	Ypsilanti	Washtenaw.
19. Lant, Bernice	St. Ignace	Mackinac.
20. Malcolm, Jeanne	Saginaw	Saginaw.
21. Mollé, Bertha Dayton.	Riley Center	St. Clair.
22. Nutting, Nora	Lansing	Ingham.
23. Playter, Cora	Kent City	Kent.
24. Pickell, Minnie	Livergreen	Montcalm.
25. Phelps, Eliza S.	Pontiac	Oakland.
26. Reichert, Cora	Saginaw	Saginaw.
27. Sanderson, Mabel	Gladwin	Gladwin.
28. Schoolcraft, Muriel M.	Taymouth	Saginaw.
29. Schroeder, Mary	Detroit	Wayne.
30. Smith, Anna	Howell	Livingston.
31. Smith, Alma	Melvin	Sanilac.
32. Sweetland, Lizzie	South Haven	Van Buren.
33. Weekly, Margaret	Mt. Pleasant	Montcalm.
34. Wyatt, Ada Woodward	South Lyons	Oakland.



The Power House and Factory.



INMATES IN ATTENDANCE NOVEMBER 20, 1912.

MALE.

Name.	Place.	County.
1. Arnold, Elmer	Charlevoix	Charlevoix.
2. Alger, Frank	Clare	Clare.
3. Avery, William D	Grass Lake	Jackson.
4. Callam, John C	Ironwood	Gogebic.
5. Dickey, Edward	Detroit	Wayne.
6. Dauttror, Joseph	Lansing	Ingham.
7. Emmons, Bion L	Berrien Springs	Berrien.
8. Frank, Albertis	Galesburg	Kalamazoo.
9. Fuller, Earl H	St. Charles	Saginaw.
10. Groth, Henry	Manistee	Manistee.
11. Harriott, George A	Saginaw	Saginaw.
12. Hunt, George J	Iron Mountain	Dickinson.
13. Huff, Elba M	Caledonia	Kent.
14. Hager, Frank J	Quincy	Branch.
15. Houvori, Waino	Sault Ste. Marie	Chippewa.
16. Kay, William	Port Huron	St. Clair.
17. Kettle, Henry C	Detroit	Wayne.
18. Kennison, William	Sand Lake	Montcalm.
19. Kofron, Joseph	Crystal Falls	Iron.
20. Kelly, George	Orleans	Ionia.
21. Krough, Christian Nelson	Laurium	Houghton.
22. Keppler, Charles	Lake Linden	Houghton.
23. Kennel, David	Pigeon	Huron.
24. Lipe, Charles A	Grand Rapids	Kent.
25. McConnell, William S	Lansing	Ingham.
26. Molle, Constance J	Nadeau	Menominee.
27. Martin, Grant J	Menominee	Menominee.
28. Moore, Clarence	Coleman	Midland.
29. Madison, Jeremiah H	Detroit	Wayne.
30. Muir, Edwin	Niagara Falls	Ont.
31. Munson, Gardner D	Stanton	Montcalm.
32. Mitte, Truman W	Saginaw	Saginaw.
33. Nichols, Orin S	Vestaberg	Montcalm.
34. Perkins, Warren	Plymouth	Wayne.
35. Persons, Albert A	Alpena	Alpena.
36. Spencer, James B	Ann Arbor	Washtenaw.
37. Schraft, Fred	Lansing	Ingham.
38. Strand, John	Reed City	Osceola.
39. Smith, Robert R	Perry	Shiawassee.
40. Sudrow, George W	Grand Rapids	Kent.
41. Schultz, Herman	Orleans	Ionia.
42. Shotwell, Ambrose M	Concord	Jackson.
43. Shotwell, George W	Santiago	Arenac.
44. Shipley, Walter	Battle Creek	Calhoun.
45. Tuck, John	Jamestown	Saginaw.
46. Tennyson, Joseph	Constantine	St. Joseph.
47. Van Duser, Irvin	Bay City	Bay.
48. Vanderbilt, Riley	Lenox	Macomb.
49. Wagner, Bernard	Detroit	Wayne.
50. Wyatt, John E	Rudyard	Chippewa.
51. Williams, Henry R	Saginaw	Saginaw.
52. Whittig, Joseph K	Grand Rapids	Kent.
53. Yager, Lester	Rosebush	Isabella.
54. Youtz, Raymond	Monroe	Monroe.
55. Zeilstra, Gerhardt	Grand Rapids	Kent.

INMATES IN ATTENDANCE NOVEMBER 20, 1912.

FEMALE.

Name.	Place.	County.
1. Arnold, Evelyn	Burton.....	Shiawassee.
2. Bock, Theresa	Tittabawassee.	Saginaw.
3. Burroughs, Jessie M.	Marcellus.....	Cass.
4. Churchill, Mabel	Lansing.....	Ingham.
5. Couden, Ethel	Rosebush.....	Isabella.
6. Dubay, Ida A.	Pine River.....	Gratiot.
7. Dickey, Retta Steward.	Lakesport.....	St. Clair.
8. Edmonds, Alma J.	Lansing.....	Ingham.
9. Fitzpatrick, Jennie B.	Battle Creek...	Calhoun.
10. Gauthier, Agnes	Detroit.....	Wayne.
11. Hamilton, Emma L.	Ann Arbor.....	Washtenaw.
12. Hicks, May	Saginaw.....	Saginaw.
13. Keeler, Gertrude L.	Ludington...	Mason.
14. Klaviter, Clara	Ypsilanti...	Washtenaw.
15. Molle, Bertha Dayton.	Riley Center.	St. Clair.
16. Playter, Cora	Kent City.....	Kent.
17. Pickell, Minnie	Evergreen.....	Montcalm.
18. Phelps, Eliza S.	Pontiac.....	Oakland.
19. Rochert, Cora	Saginaw.....	Saginaw.
20. Sanderson, Mabel	Gladwin.....	Gladwin.
21. Schoolcraft, Mirl M.	Taymouth...	Saginaw.
22. Schroeder, Mary	Detroit.....	Wayne.
23. Smith, Anna	Howell.....	Livingston.
24. Sweetland, Libbie	South Haven	Van Buren.
25. Weekly, Margaret	Mt. Pleasant.	Montcalm.
26. Wyatt, Ada Woodward	South Lyons	Oakland.

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees and Superintendent of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind, Saginaw, Michigan:

Gentlemen—I herewith submit the following report covering the period from July 1, 1910, to June 30, 1912:

In the fall of 1910, when Saginaw was suffering from a severe epidemic of smallpox, the inmates and all connected with the Institution were vaccinated. A few days later one of the inmates developed small pox of a mild type. She was removed to the City Detention Hospital and made an uneventful recovery. Aside from this one case of small pox there have been no cases of contagious disease in the Institution.

The general health of the inmates has been very good, nearly all cases of illness being of a minor character. No serious accident has happened to any of the blind workers.

Last May Superintendent Putnam secured the services of Miss Bessie M. Sutherland, a graduate nurse, for matron, so any who are ailing may have a nurse's attention and care.

It is my opinion that the hygienic, sanitary and dietetic condition will compare favorably with any State or Public Institution of this class.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. CURTIS, M. D.

MATRON'S REPORT.

To Frank G. Putnam, Superintendent.

I hereby submit for your consideration the matron's report for the biennial period ending June 30, 1912. Almost the entire period of this report was under the administration of Miss Ora Waite, who resigned to take effect for May 1st, at which time I was appointed to the position.

Naturally, there were incidental changes in the mode of administration, and a few upheavals, before the household again settled down to routine.

The summer has been a busy one: First came the inevitable housecleaning. Curtains were added to the furnishings of the men's and women's dormitories. Then came a new venture, the canning of fruit and vegetables. For this a new store room was built in the basement of the East Hall. Some of the blind girls helped very efficiently in the preparation of the materials for canning, consisting of jelly, jams, preserves, syrups and canned goods; in all nine hundred quarts were "put up."

Our annual picnic to Wenona Beach was held in June and was largely attended and enjoyed.

Early in September came the convention of the American Association of Workers for the Blind. For this occasion the "house" was again swept and garnished; new linen, bedding and blankets were bought and also some household furnishings, as rugs, chairs and improved sanitary receptacles. The convention proved a source of pleasure and instruction to all and its departure was individually regretted.

Some slight effort has been made to improve general living conditions. Small laundry, waste appurtenances, have been established for the convenience of the blind girls. Specific attention has been given to the scientific preparation and combining of foods.

There have been several social evenings and entertainments, as well as outside attractions. At present preparations are being made for a joyous Thanksgiving, and plans for Christmas are being anticipated with great relish. A sociable, profitable and enjoyable winter is being looked forward to by all.

Respectfully submitted,
BESSIE M. SUTHERLAND,
Matron.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

LITERARY DEPARTMENT; INTELLECTUAL AND TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION AND SOCIAL SERVICE; CIRCULATING LIBRARY WORK AND NEEDS; STATE REGISTRATION AND STATISTICS OF THE BLIND; CO-OPERATION OF ORGANIZED WORKERS FOR THE BLIND, ETC.

To Superintendent Frank G. Putnam and the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind, Saginaw West Side, Michigan.

Gentlemen—In accordance with the usage of the past eight years of my service in this capacity since the opening of the Institution, I have the honor herewith to submit the following report of the work done under my supervision during the biennial term ended June 30, 1912, to thank you for your continued courtesy and encouragement, and earnestly to invoke your further favor and co-operation toward the satisfactory accomplishment of the proper objects of this department. And in particular I trust that you will not fail to ask the good people of Michigan, through their authorized representatives at Lansing, to grant us the means necessary to provide and promptly distribute an adequate supply of embossed reading matter for the instruction and consolation of the hundreds of shut in sightless readers throughout the state, to whom and from whom the federal government permits such loaned books to be transported in the United States mail post free. The special concession of 1904 for such free transmission of loaned reading matter for the blind was made by Congress upon the reasonable supposition that the people of the several states would be willing generously to supply and care for the requisite reading matter to be so loaned out from and returned to these special libraries without charge for the federal postal service involved.

The approximately two thousand volumes of such embossed reading matter now in our free lending library include works in five different systems of raised characters—American Braille, European Braille, New York Point, Roman line-letter, and the late Dr. Moon's enlarged and simplified line types—and in considerable variety as to subject matter. A large proportion of these works were printed many years ago and in styles of type now little used by the sightless readers of this state; and very many of them have come to the library from individuals and organizations without expense to the Institution (except for transportation in some cases.) The call for these works has been sufficient to warrant us in thus thankfully welcoming such contributions of useful literature in any current type system, although we have not had the necessary means at command for purchasing them directly from the publishers.

Our inability to purchase new material in any considerable quantity and to supply suitable catalogs has served, with kindred causes, to prevent any material increase in the circulation of our books among the blind at their homes throughout the state, many readers having exhausted our supply of the classes of reading matter in which they are interested. Since the printing of books to be read by touch yields no pecuniary profit to the publisher, and since the organized workers for the

blind have been chiefly concerned with either the care and instruction of the young blind or the vocational training and employment of the adult blind, the special literary needs of the latter class have been for the most part neglected.

The Perkins Institution for the Blind of New England, the New York State Library at Albany, and the publishers of certain classes of religious literature have placed within the reach of purchasers entertaining and edifying works that are appreciated by many readers of mature years; and the philanthropic magazine publishers, both religious and secular, chief among which stands the most generous and valuable gift of Mrs. Matilda Ziegler, are doing what they can to keep the shut-in blind acquainted with the current topics of popular discussion.

Through the school presses of certain states the need of juvenile literature in raised characters is quite liberally supplied; and good textbooks in the leading high school branches are becoming fairly abundant. There is an almost unlimited need of good works addressed to mature readers; and the largely unsatisfied demand for good modern fiction and for valuable books and pamphlets on important subjects of current discussion, together with insufficient room and means for prompt service, is chiefly responsible for the present relative lack of activity in the library service for the blind of Michigan.

Printing for the blind must always remain a philanthropic, rather than a money-making or gainful enterprise; and such books for the use of touch readers are regularly supplied at or below cost price, whether printed at the expense of the public or of benevolent individuals or organizations.

We should have upon our shelves, available as loans to the sightless readers at their homes throughout the state, at least one copy of every valuable work so printed, and more than one copy of the few works that are in most frequent demand.

How disappointing and unsatisfactory to go on teaching the blind to read by touch, as Michigan has been doing for nearly sixty years past, if little reading matter is to be placed within their reach other than the text-books with which they were made familiar at school.

Legibility by touch requires that the raised characters employed shall be coarse—printed from types varying from 20 points to 27 points in height, yielding from nearly four to less than three lines to the inch—and they are usually impressed upon but one side of the paper, which should be thick and of firm texture, so as to preserve the embossed dots or lines for repeated reading. The relief printing spreads the leaves apart, and materially increases the bulk of the volumes and the cost of the binding, shelving, etc. The requisite quality and quantity of paper and the cost of binding and of the necessary metal and labor for the stereographing place the price and possession of any considerable number of such publications quite beyond the reach of the handicapped readers, and oblige them to rely upon the few and usually distant libraries able and disposed to loan out these entertaining and instructive works by mail or otherwise without charge.

The establishing and governing act (Act 169, P. A. 1903) requires this Institution to maintain such a circulating library, and we have from the first earnestly desired the necessary equipment and facilities for render-

ing its service in the highest degree efficient and satisfactory to the blind throughout the state.

The sightless readers of embossed books, music and periodicals borrowed from time to time from this free circulating library have numbered 202 persons, including 40 readers who have drawn books at the library, to nine of whom books have also been sent out by mail during the past year, and 162 other persons to whom books have been sent outside the Institution; and of these 202 readers 117 have drawn no reading matter during the last half year of the biennial term.

Of course the failure of these 117 persons to continue to use the reading matter of our library has been due to a variety of different causes, some of them wholly unavoidable and in no way due to shortcomings on our part; but in many cases it has been due to two principal causes that might be corrected, namely: the lack of new books to read, and the lack of convenient means of finding out for one's self what books of interest to the reader are available in the library, since many blind persons find it very inconvenient to use other persons' eyes in consulting an ink finding list over and over again from week to week or from month to month, after each borrowed book has been returned. We need new books in considerable variety and suitable finding-lists of those on our shelves.

Under such circumstances as I have described would not a librarian be deemed deficient in duty-doing if he neglected strongly to present the needs of his special department at a time when it seemed possible to have the difficulty corrected?

Four years ago the need of a more complete assortment of books in the current types for the blind was strongly presented, and our estimate of a suitable appropriation for that purpose received the approval of the State Board of Corrections and Charities; but owing to the exceptional condition of the State Treasury we failed to obtain the appropriation. Last year we asked for \$2,000 and were granted one-fourth of this amount as a special item in the appropriation for the fiscal year ending in 1913 and an increase of \$3,000 in this year's current expense appropriation. And since we are required by law to maintain such a library the necessary materials for carrying it on in an efficient manner are a proper subject of current expense or, at all events, of public expense. The Federal government consented to carry these books to and from the readers in the United States mails post free, upon the supposition that the several state institutions would cheerfully supply and care for the books required for the use of such readers.

The greater part of the reading matter thus far placed upon our shelves has come to us by donation or, at least, without any direct expense to the state. It would be a reproach to the great State of Michigan not to supply its sightless readers (shut in as a majority of them are) with acceptable reading matter as liberally as do neighboring states.

In view of these facts we are asking for a fund of \$2,000 worth of reading matter for the library during the next two years, besides the necessary expenditures from the current funds of the Institution for procuring suitable condensed finding lists of our several classes of books, and for desirable mailing cases for the protection of the books while passing back and forth in the mails, and for rebinding and repairing of books already belonging to the library in need of binding or repairing.

Books reread many times over by self-taught or other hard-handed readers must be rapidly replaced, as the letters become too much worn to be readily recognized by the sense of touch of many borrowers of such books; and the rapid handling of the heavy volumes in the mails quickly renders necessary the rebinding or replacement of these works. But if there is justification for the liberal maintenance of ordinary public libraries at the expense of the taxpayers, the special obligation of the state to make suitable provision for the needs of the unfortunate is doubly imperative in this direction, since such provision is advantageous alike to the blind themselves and to the seeing around them, and is creditable to all, and cheerfully acquiesced in by even the least sentimental of the contributors of such taxes.

The desired fund for fully equipping the free circulating library for the blind of Michigan, should be supplied in a specific appropriation, and should not be regarded, officially or otherwise, as constituting any part of the per capita current expense of maintaining, instructing and employing the inmates of the Institution at Saginaw who are here chiefly for vocational opportunities, since the circulating library for the blind is maintained principally for the benefit of those living at their respective homes about the state, as comparatively few of the inmates, after devoting eight or nine hours to their daily tasks in the industrial department, have left sufficient energy and ambition to feel like taking the requisite time and trouble to spell out with their own tired fingers story or poetry, science, travel or works on philosophy, art or religion. But many living in private families throughout the state with their physical necessities adequately supplied from their own estates or through the kindness of friends and others secluded in infirmaries and disabled from engaging in productive industries, have at their disposal otherwise dreary hours, weeks and years of waiting in enforced idleness, which leisure time their hungry minds would gladly devote to even the slow reading of books of their own choosing suited to their several tastes and needs.

A liberal supply of literature or music properly prepared and supplied for their use would bring warm sunshine into the circumscribed lives of scores of waiting readers, and would afford profound consolation not alone to the blind but to many about them who must otherwise often grieve in helpless sympathy.

Shall we not make it possible to do for the blind of Michigan what others are so generously doing for those in Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio?

In addition to the replacing of wornout books and the purchase of a few new and greatly needed works in the current embossed pinctographic systems, we have decided this year to place within reach of our readers an assortment of books from England printed in the so-called Moon system, designed especially for the use of elderly and dull-fingered readers; also an increased assortment of collections of vocal and instrumental music, including very many of the Jacksonville, Lansing and Boston publications, of which suitable condensed finding-lists are now in preparation. Having now upon our shelves or ordered for early delivery a large majority of the American Braille publications of the American Printing House for the Blind, at Louisville, we are beginning to use their catalog as a finding-list of such works, and are preparing more complete

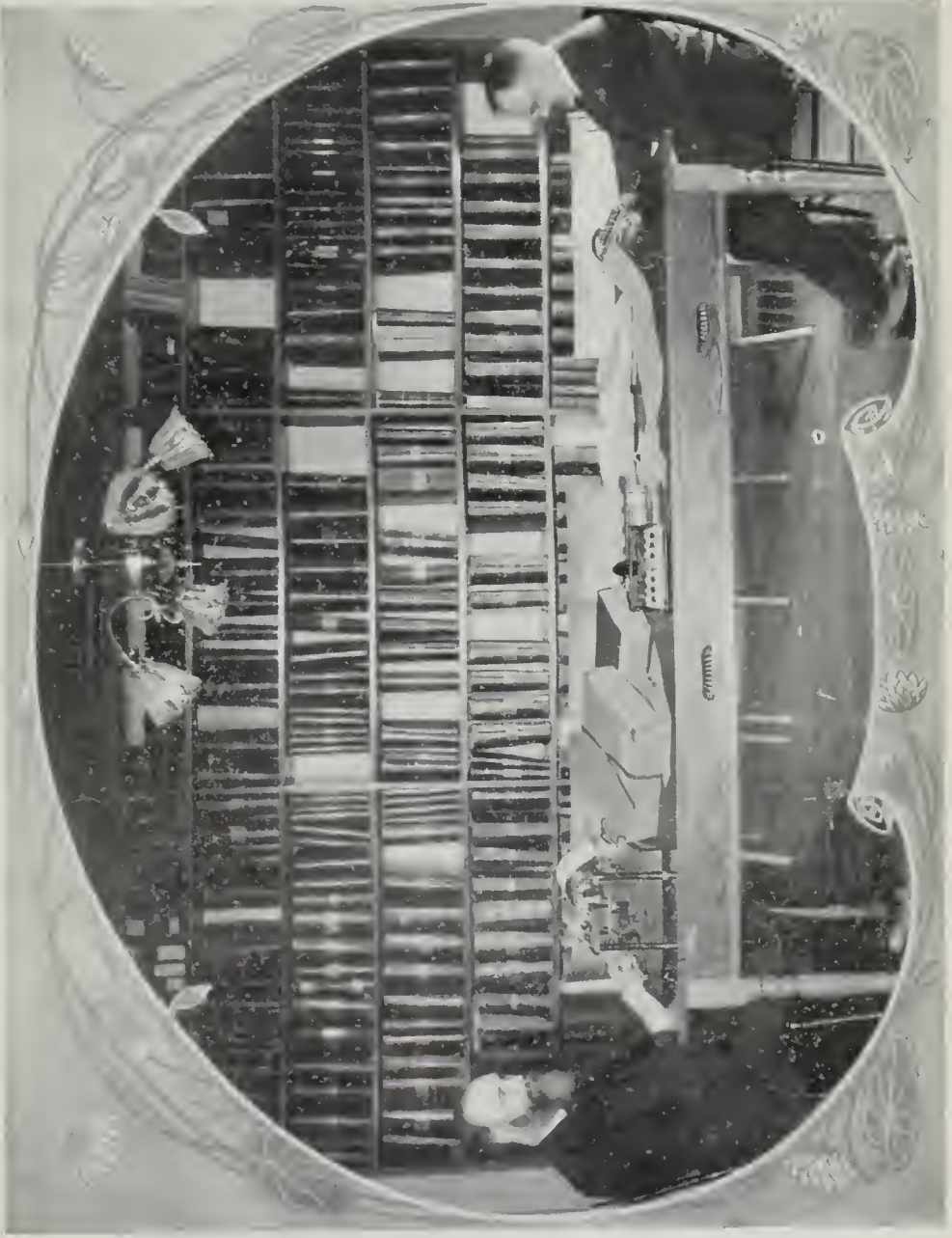
mimeograph lists of various classes of our reading matter available for loans; and with the cordial support of our many friends we confidently hope at any early date to have, in all the current styles of raised type, an unsurpassed free lending library for the blind in this state.

INSTRUCTION, REGISTRATION AND SOCIAL SERVICE.

Those engaged in the helpful work for the adult blind assigned to this Institution are obliged from the first to recognize the complex nature of the problem with which we have to deal, indicated in the threefold object named in the opening provision of the establishing act governing this institution for the "training, care and employment of adult blind persons." We must recognize all the ordinary differences between individuals of full age, and must deal with the added differences occasioned by the varying causes, degrees and conditions of their deprivation. Within the limits of our conferred powers and means we must seek to do what we can to ameliorate their unhappy condition in harmony with the well being of others of their class and of society at large. The educational needs of all new applicants coming to the Institution have received due attention; and all have been encouraged to accept such instruction and training within the range of our equipment, as will best fit them for agreeable participation in the useful activities of life. Nearly all need training in the effective use of their hands, and those who have not been without sight long enough to have had the early educational advantages afforded in the special school for the young blind at Lansing or elsewhere, are justly entitled to suitable literary and technical instruction and training necessary to familiarize them with the helpful use of methods and appliances adapted to the requirements of blind persons.

In seeking thus to ameliorate the conditions and relax in some degree the restrictions unexpectedly thrust upon the blind by their deprivation, we have continued to afford instruction in the reading and writing of embossed pneumographic characters now currently employed in books for the blind; also training in the accurate use of ordinary typewriting machines, together with such minor elementary branches as may be individually requisite to fit them for their proper stations and work in life. We have also felt impelled to do what we could to encourage the current movement toward the ultimate adoption of a suitable standard system of writing and printing for the blind that shall meet all the legitimate requirements of the several systems now in use in the various English speaking states and countries, if not throughout the world. Instruction has also been given in vocal and instrumental music by Miss Cora E. Playter, successor to Miss Jennie L. Dusenbery (now Mrs. D. G. Rinehardt.) And the pupils have made satisfactory progress in these departments. Our chorus class has been continued and has voluntarily and most cheerfully furnished the singing in most of our chapel services on Sunday afternoons, at which the several pastors of the city have kindly brought their weekly messages to our attentive members. Other local speakers and skillful musicians have also occasionally favored us with their kind services.

A suitable reader has been regularly employed to acquaint the interested listeners with the leading current events and topics of the day;



The Library, where Reading, Typewriting, Etc., are Taught.



and Mr. O. S. Nichols and Miss Playter have kindly continued to favor them with appreciated readings on Sunday mornings. Unrestricted access to our pianos and typewriters has also afforded satisfaction, and the rules and privileges of former years have seemed to meet all requirements.

By direction of the Board of Trustees and with the kind co-operation of the United States Census Office and other organizations I have begun a general registration of the blind of this state, and have the honor to submit the accompanying statistical summary of its results up to date. It is sincerely hoped that the blind and their friends will heartily co-operate with us in this important undertaking. Its indorsement by the Welfare Association at its recent convention here is highly appreciated.

STATISTICS OF THE BLIND OF MICHIGAN, 1910-1912.

Classification.	Male.	Female.	Total.
According to age: all ages	964	741	1,705
Aged 17 years or less, exclusive of pupils at Lansing.	78	59	137
Aged 18 - 19 years	14	7	21
Aged 20 - 29 years	71	43	117
Aged 30 - 39 years	86	48	134
Aged 40 - 49 years	109	61	170
Aged 50 - 59 years	122	87	209
Aged 60 - 69 years	196	135	331
Aged 70 years or over	285	301	586
According to marital condition	964	741	1,705
Single	331	221	552
Married	423	243	666
Widowed	192	274	463
Divorced	18	6	24
According to relationship to head of family or household	964	741	1,705
Heads, husbands, wives, etc.	438	219	657
Parents, parents-in-law, step-parents, and grandparents	109	195	304
Children, children-in-law, step-children, and grandchildren	161	120	281
Brothers, sisters, and other relatives	58	62	120
Boarders, lodgers, etc.	65	29	94
Inmates of infirmaries and other institutions	130	86	216
According to occupation	964	741	1,705
No occupation	507	660	1,167
Supported by own income (no stated occupation)	151	41	192
Farmer and farmers' wives	84	1	85
Farm laborers, farmers' sons and daughters	18	1	19
Merchants, peddlers, agents, etc.	55	1	56
Broom makers	47	3	50
Weavers	1	3	4
Chair caners	1	9	10
Industrial apprentices	16	4	20
Piano tuners	15	.....	15
Singers	9	1	10
Music teachers	5	1	6
Laborers, wood-sawers, miners, boarding-housekeepers, dress-makers, and miscellaneous occupations, such as physicians, clergymen, teachers, lecturers, publishers, snuff-maker, electrician, blacksmith, apiarist, watchmaker, etc.	55	16	71
According to geographical distribution by counties and districts outside Wayne County.	964	741	1,705
1. Wayne	93	84	177
2. District	61	57	118
Jackson	14	11	25
Lenawee	19	23	42
Monroe	17	8	25
Washtenaw	11	15	26
3. District	85	81	166
Branch	9	6	15
Calhoun	23	20	43
Eaton	14	7	21
Hillsdale	19	18	37
Kalamazoo	20	30	50
4. District	81	74	155
Allegan	21	8	29
Barry	10	10	20
Berrien	17	17	34
Cass	11	14	25
St. Joseph	10	12	22
Van Buren	12	13	25
5. District	71	58	129
Ionia	8	8	16
Kent	47	43	90
Ottawa	16	7	23
6. District	53	52	105
Genesee	18	17	35
Ingham	13	13	26
Livingston	10	8	18
Oakland	12	14	26

STATISTICS OF THE BLIND OF MICHIGAN, 1910-1912.—*Concluded.*

Classification.		Male.	Female.	Total.
7.	District.....	76	52	128
	Huron.....	12	7	19
	Lapeer.....	14	17	31
	Macomb.....	11	8	19
	St. Clair.....	16	9	25
	Sanilac.....	23	11	34
8.	District.....	120	83	203
	Clinton.....	20	8	28
	Saginaw.....	83	55	138
	Shiawassee.....	8	9	17
	Tuscola.....	9	11	20
9.	District.....	71	49	120
	Benzie.....	1	4	5
	Lake.....	2	1	3
	Leelanau.....	8	6	14
	Manistee.....	13	7	20
	Mason.....	7	6	13
	Muskegon.....	14	8	22
	Newaygo.....	9	3	12
	Oceana.....	13	11	24
	Wexford.....	4	3	7
10.	District.....	48	49	97
	Alcona.....	1	2	3
	Alpena.....	4	5	9
	Arenac.....	4	1	5
	Bay.....	18	12	30
	Cheboygan.....	5	4	9
	Crawford.....	1	1	2
	Eminet.....	5	4	9
	Gladwin.....	1	6	7
	Iosco.....	2	1	3
	Midland.....	4	4	8
	Montmorency.....	.....	1	1
	Ogemaw.....	3	3	6
	Oscoda.....	.....	2	2
	Otsego.....	.....	1	1
	Presque Isle.....	.....	2	2
11.	District.....	89	54	143
	Antrim.....	2	8	10
	Charlevoix.....	7	4	11
	Clare.....	7	1	8
	Grand Traverse.....	15	7	22
	Gratiot.....	13	5	18
	Isabella.....	12	7	19
	Kalkaska.....	1	.....	1
	Mecosta.....	7	2	9
	Missaukee.....	2	3	5
	Montcalm.....	21	12	33
	Osceola.....	2	3	5
	Roscommon.....	.....	2	2
12.	District.....	116	48	164
	Alger.....	.....	2	2
	Baraga.....	3	.....	3
	Chippewa.....	7	8	15
	Delta.....	4	6	10
	Dickinson.....	11	4	15
	Gogebic.....	7	1	8
	Houghton.....	37	8	45
	Iron.....	4	.....	4
	Keweenaw.....	2	.....	2
	Luce.....	5	1	6
	Mackinac.....	1	5	6
	Marquette.....	18	5	23
	Menominee.....	10	3	13
	Ontonagon.....	5	1	6
	Schoolcraft.....	2	4	6

The spirit of cheerful co-operation now prevailing among those in charge of all the well-considered agencies and movements for the blind in this state is a source of earnest gratulation, and should not be lightly sacrificed or menaced because of individual zeal for particular undertakings, present or prospective.

The annexed papers contain valuable facts and suggestions pertaining to the work for the blind which render their publication at this time very desirable.

With renewed thanks for your many past favors and trusting that the recommendations to which I have made bold to ask your kind attention may meet with favorable consideration, I have the honor to remain,

Yours with great respect,

AMBROSE M. SHOTWELL,

Librarian and Assistant Superintendent.

Saginaw W. S., Mich., Nov. 10, 1912.

CO-OPERATION AND SUGGESTIONS.
CONFERENCES OF ORGANIZED WORKERS FOR THE BLIND
AND THE UNIFORM TYPE MOVEMENT.

THE PITTSBURGH TWENTY-FIRST A. A. I. B. CONVENTION, 1912.

(Abridged from notice in "Outlook for the Blind," summer number, 1912.)

(1) The biennial convention of the American Association of Instructors of the Blind, held in Pittsburgh from June 25 to 28, inclusive was unusually large. One hundred and fifty-six delegates from twenty-four states represented twenty-six institutions and twelve other agencies for the blind. Everybody was made welcome before the meetings and during them by the cordial host and hostess, Superintendent and Mrs. McAloney, who had the arrangements so carefully made beforehand that things went as by clockwork.

Hon. H. Kirke Porter, president of the Board of Directors of the Pittsburgh School for the Blind, who has been associated with the management of that institution since it was started in 1888, traveled from his summer home, over 500 miles distant, in order to welcome the delegates. Dr. John A. Brashear, a member of the Board of Corporators, delayed his departure from Pittsburgh to add his cheery words of welcome. * * *

The program was excellent, not too full, and culminated in the splendid address of the superintendent of the Milwaukee public schools, Carroll G. Pearse, who traveled from his home in Wisconsin to show the convention the practicability of educating blind children in public schools. His interest was a distinct triumph for the Executive Committee.

It was a disappointment and loss that Superintendent Huntoon could not give his expected history of the American Printing House, though the afternoon when this was to have been read was profitably filled with statements of the aims and methods of work of the Uniform Type Committee and with a discussion of the future of the *Outlook for the Blind*. Both matters were cordially received by the convention.

Indeed, the whole convention was remarkable for the mutual good feeling which pervaded it.

The papers were excellent, that by Superintendent Oliphant being listened to with the utmost interest for over an hour. Mr. Burritt, in his paper, voiced the thought of the much larger number of superintendents of the schools for the blind today—a change in attitude from an earlier era of the work—that it is not enough to train blind people to pass certain examinations or to give them academic training equal to what the public schools give, but that the supreme test of the school training is whether it fits the pupils to take an honorable place in the world outside. Moreover, the most efficient school gives a helping hand

to the graduates, especially when, at the beginning of their careers, they start out for themselves.

Not less enthusiastic than the regular meetings were the several round tables; those having the largest gathering dealt with pencil writing, domestic science, piano tuning, and the Montessori method.

The following officers were elected for the next two years:

Edward E. Allen, *President*, Boston, Mass.

John E. Ray, *First Vice-President*, North Carolina.

Thomas S. McAloney, *Second Vice-President*, Pittsburgh, Pa.

W. B. Wait, *Corresponding Secretary*, New York City, N. Y.

George D. Eaton, *Recording Secretary*, Vinton, Io.

F. H. Manning, *Treasurer*, Talladega, Ala.

Executive Committee

Frank M. Driggs, *Chairman*, Ogden, Utah.

Edward E. Allen, *ex officio*, Boston, Mass.

Miss Harriet A. Lounsbury, Batavia, N. Y.

George F. Oliphant, Macon, Ga.

H. F. Gardiner, Brantford, Ont.

U. T. C. OF THE A. A. W. B.

(2) We have heard with pleasure of the reception which is being accorded to the agents of the Uniform Type Committee. Miss L. Pearl Howard and Mrs. E. H. Fowler tell us that so far their journey among the institutions has been made delightful by the cordiality of their reception. Miss Howard says, in substance, that "the superintendents and teachers and the pupils who have taken the tests have expressed deep interest in the work the committee is doing; we have sometimes met with questions as to the value of our work, but a study of our tests has begotten confidence in our aims and methods."

Since the committee's visit to Columbus, Miss Howard and Mrs. Fowler have been at the institutions for the blind in Hartford, Conn.; New York City; Overbrook, Pennsylvania; Overlea, Maryland; and Washington, D. C., spending from two days to two weeks at each place. They came to Pittsburgh in time for the convention of the A. A. I. B. At this conference there were five more members of the Type Committee present, so that it was possible to arrange for further work. During the summer vacation the committee made tests among the adult blind. Beginning at the Pittsburgh Workshop for the Blind, they continued their tests in Cleveland, Albany, Worcester, Mass., and other places in New England during the summer. So much interest has been expressed in the work of this committee that we print a statement that has been prepared for the *Ziegler Magazine*. We commend it to our readers.

THE TYPE QUESTION AND THE WORK OF THE UNIFORM TYPE COMMITTEE.

BY R. B. IRWIN

No one who has to depend upon his fingers to do his reading needs to have the importance of the Type Question urged upon him. No reading blind person needs to be reminded of the calamity of duplicating in different systems the few books which he can persuade his friends to print for him. But the gravity of the Type Question is increasing every year. The multiplication of libraries and periodicals, and the comparative ease with which we can now have access to this kind of literature, have increased the number of habitual touch readers to a degree not dreamed of a generation ago. The question has now grown to such proportions that we are under an imperative moral obligation, not only to ourselves, but to our seeing friends and to those who come after us, to come to some settlement of this question.

It is now positively wrong for us to place our own temporary convenience in the way of settling on the best possible code for our own and future generations. We may be thoroughly satisfied that our own pet system is the best possible one that can be devised, and we may be perfectly happy to see it adopted as the universal system for all time to come; but unless we can convince our friends who favor some other system, and can show them their error, then something must be lacking.

On most subjects we pride ourselves on being quite reasonable individuals; but when we come to a discussion of the Type Question, somehow we never seem to get very far. We say that the other fellow is prejudiced; but a widespread prejudice can only continue to exist where there is a lack of positive knowledge or an abundance of misinformation.

The difficulty is this: we have little or no scientific data on the subject. We have few facts which are universally accepted. The few principles which have been adduced by real scientific investigation have been used so often in the form of personal assertions in defense of one or the other rival systems that to accept any of these, without demonstration, would seem to many like acknowledging the superiority of the particular system enjoying this advantage. *The crying need is a body of fundamental principles, scientifically proved by competent fair-minded persons, without respect to the effect which the truth or falsity of any claim may have on the good reputation of any one's favorite type.* With such material at hand, it will not take us long (if we are really in earnest) to settle the Type Question in a perfectly safe way.

The American Association of Workers for the Blind has appointed a committee which is endeavoring honestly and conscientiously to investigate this problem *fairly and thoroughly*. This committee has been working for years to resolve this question into its elements, and to test out each phase of the problem, entirely without reference to the probable effect upon the fate of any existing system. The plan has been to analyze the questions at issue, and when they have been reduced to the simplest form possible, to work out tests which both New York Point

and Braille members of the committee agree will conclusively prove the particular point one way or the other, providing they are tried out on a sufficiently large number of readers. For example, the following are some of the tests which the investigating party are now conducting. The reader will readily see that they deal with some of the most vital issues in this perplexing controversy.

First (3¹). A test to determine whether or not there is any difference in the legibility of characters three dots in length, as compared with similar characters turned so as to be three dots in height, such as Point f and American Braille l, Point q and American Braille v, Point c and American Braille b, etc.

Second (4). A test to determine the relative legibility of letters within the same system, such as Point l and r, m and d, q and g, etc., and American Braille b and y, u and n, and u and v, etc.

Third (5). A test to determine whether or not reading is materially impeded by the use of characters which are identical except as to position in the line, such as American Braille a and e, Point a and n, f and n, etc. (Such characters are known as "equivocal signs.")

Fourth (2). A test to determine the relative legibility of characters having many dots as compared with characters having few dots; for example, English Braille t, r, and y as compared with American Braille t, r, and y and Point i, a, and y. (The reader will recall that the two American punctographic systems are formulated on the theory that letters having but few dots are not only more readily written but more easily read than characters having many dots. For this reason letters recurring with the greatest frequency in the English language are assigned characters having the fewest dots. This is known as the principle of the frequency of recurrence.)

Fifth (6). A test to determine whether reading is facilitated or impeded by the use of contractions.

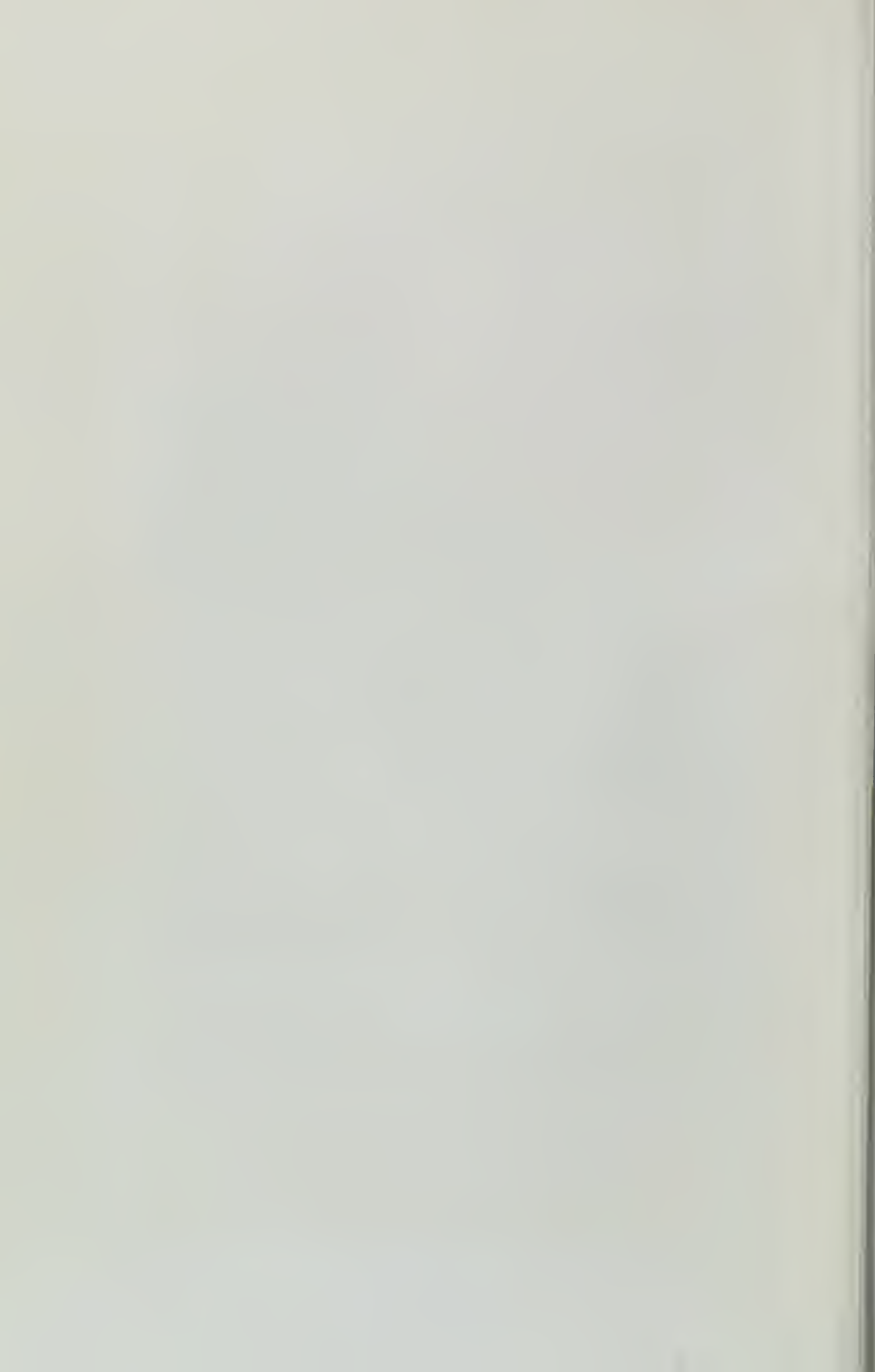
Sixth (1). A test to ascertain whether or not there is any marked difference in speed or accuracy of a large number of Point readers, as compared with a proportionately large number of Braille readers. Great care will be taken in this last test, as in all others, to obtain correspondingly equal conditions as to age, degree of intelligence, and reading ability of those taking the tests in each system. For this reason it has been deemed imperative that the same persons direct the taking of all tests.

The traveling investigating party will consist of Miss L. Pearl Howard, a member of the committee, and Mrs. E. H. Fowler, clerk of the committee. In order to insure absolute fairness, an effort will be made at each place where tests are taken to have competent outside witnesses, and to have disinterested persons to assist in timing these tests. To reach a sufficient number of touch readers of varying conditions to make the results conclusive, it has been found necessary to conduct these tests in a considerable number of places throughout the United States and Canada. The investigating party will visit as many large centers where a sufficient number of blind persons can be found willing to co-operate as the limited time and funds at the disposal of the committee will permit.

¹ The writer has placed these tests in the order in which he felt they would be of most interest to the reader. The Arabic numerals indicate the numbers which have been assigned to the various tests by the committee.—L.P.

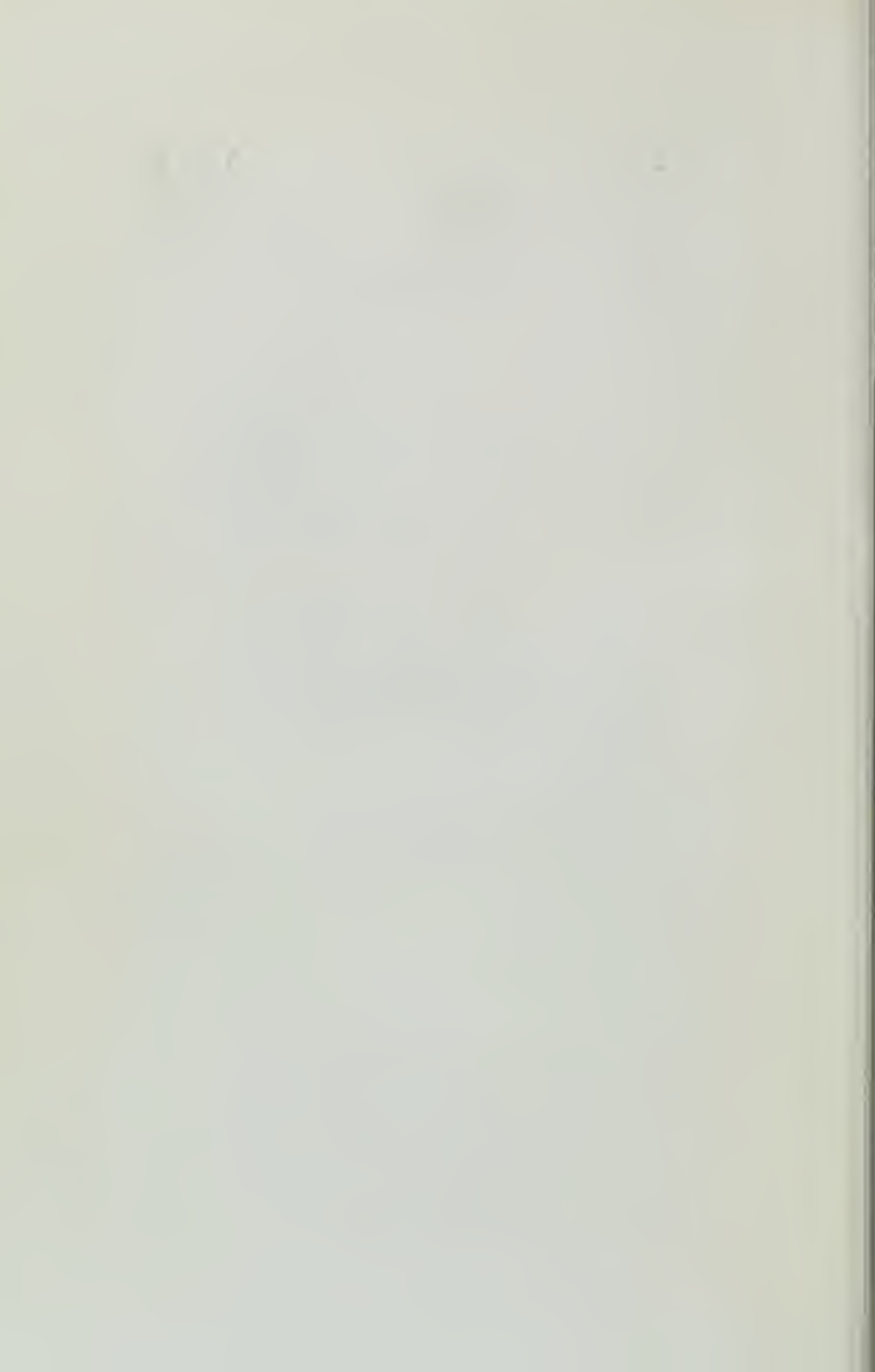


Fabric Weaving.





Reclining Chairs.



Meanwhile, calculations will be made regarding such vital points as the relative amount of space occupied by each system, and the like.

After six or eight months of test taking, the results will be tabulated and principles worked out. Then, for the first time in a century of controversy, will we have some real *facts* upon which to work.

But there is one thing more needed, for all of this work and money will be expended for naught. This committee is composed of ten *blind* persons—five favoring New York Point and five preferring some form of Braille. Each (while he has been ever on the alert to see that his system was not by any slip placed at a disadvantage in the tests) has endeavored to put aside personal prejudices, in order that the unbiased truth may be discovered. But all of this effort will have been wasted unless the committee has behind it the interest, the unqualified confidence, and the active support of *touch* readers and those actively interested in their instruction and in the printing of embossed literature. If the blind people will not be willing to accept and rally to the support of this committee in its findings—no matter what it may cost in the way of personal inconvenience—then we had better stop now. If this effort fails to enlist the backing of the *blind* people, it is doubtful if the blind themselves will ever have another opportunity to settle the Type Question as *they* see best. It will be settled for us by others as *others* see best.

EXPERIMENTS OF THE U. T. C.

(3) The investigators of the Uniform Type Committee have commenced their work for the winter with adults in Saginaw, Michigan. The following is a list of the experiments they are using:

1. What dot system now in use is most easily read? (The 100 series of tests.)
2. Are characters of few dots easier to read than characters of many? (The 200 series of tests.)
3. Are characters similar in shape more easily read if placed vertically in a three-level line or horizontally in a two-level line? (The 300 series of tests.)
4. What characters in each system are most easily read by the readers of that system? (The 400 series of tests.)
5. Are characters which are similar except for position in the line a hindrance in reading? (The 500 series of tests.)
6. What kind of contractions facilitate reading? (The 600 series of tests.)
7. What method of capitalization involves least extra labor in reading? (The 700 series of tests.)
8. What size of type is most easily read?
9. What spacing is most desirable? (The 900 series of tests.)
10. What bearing does writing with a stylus and with a machine have on the type question?
11. Are characters three points long and three points high practicable? Also fourth base characters, horizontal or vertical?
12. What evidence is given by aesthesiometric tests regarding the best distance between dots, and size and kind of type?
13. What is the best position of the fingers in reading?
14. What is the relative frequency of letters and letter-groups in English?

15. How will the revised spelling influence this frequency, and what bearing has this on the type question?

16. What bearing does the frequency in other languages have on the type question for the English language?

17. What bearing has economy in space on the type question?

18. Are the needs of adults as to type different from those of school pupils?

THE SAGINAW CONFERENCE OF 1912.

(4) The blind people's State society, organized at Lansing in September, 1900, and officially known since 1906 as the Michigan Welfare Branch of the American Association of Workers for the Blind (so affiliated under the latter's Constitution adopted at its Saginaw convention of 1905), held its seventh biennial conference—its first Saginaw meeting—at the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind on Sept. 4, 5, and 6, 1912, a most appropriate gathering-place, this association having been chiefly responsible for the movement of 1902 and 1903 for the establishment of the State Institution for the instruction and employment of the adult blind here; and in accordance with the hopes and satisfied acknowledgements of its leaders, this convention was certainly one of the largest, most interesting and harmonious gatherings of its kind thus far held. Six regular sittings were held, the exercises consisting largely of addresses, papers, and impromptu debates, with pleasing selections of vocal and instrumental music interspersed; and in general the arrangement of the program resembled that of former biennial meetings, a delightful ride about the city, an attractive exhibition of Saginaw's justly famous Auditorium organ, and an informal local rally and picnic supper being substituted for the usual banquet feature of the earlier reunions. The formal and informal discussions of various practical questions pertaining to the welfare of the blind, were very creditably conducted; valuable measures for improving the condition of the sightless and minimizing their relative number in the general population, were considered and encouraged; and increased contributions for carrying forward the good work of the organization were secured.

The practice of begging in public places, especially by able-bodied blind persons, and the indiscriminate encouragement of such mendicancy were emphatically condemned as harmful to the cause of the sightless, a very large percentage of whom, with suitable facilities and encouragements, are both able and disposed to contribute through useful industry toward their own support, thus taking a creditable share in the world's work.

Prof. Lew A. Chase's able and practical paper on the prevention of unnecessary blindness deserves the widest possible publicity; and its recommendations as to desirable legislation and law enforcement should be brought to favorable attention of the several members of the Legislature and the local and State officials and professional individuals and organizations concerned. Sources of supply of valuable literature on the subject are indicated in the paper, as well as a demonstration and explanation of the possibility of preventing much infan-

tile and life-long blindness, arising through neglect of the proper prophylaxis for forestalling babies' sore eyes and rescuing them from pathogenic conditions, and the reasons for seeking a reinforcement of the existing regulations pertaining thereto.

Among the matters most strongly advocated was a proposed appointment, by some suitable organization when enabled to give the undertaking adequate financial support, of a competent blind person sympathetically familiar with the objects and work of the existing institutions, to act as a field agent or secretary, whose chief duty should be to visit all the sightless of the state, gather reliable data concerning the condition and needs of the blind and acquaint them and their friends with the value, necessity, and practicability of the instruction, training, and other service for which suitable provision is already available, and collect the requisite information on which to base further legislative action and individual and associate philanthropy. In the cases of many aged or otherwise disabled and partially dependent blind persons, some have suggested the granting of a small pension, as well as some augmentation of the meager earnings of some industrious but partially dependent workers courageously struggling forward in useful vocations, also suitable housing for those having no available and creditable means of gaining a livelihood. Naturally, however, these matters were not fully considered at this time.

Under the topic, "What Can Michigan Do for Her Blind Women?" some of the participants advocated a practical system of domestic training under the supervision of a competent sighted person, in which each student should assume the entire responsibility of neatly caring for a cottage under both favorable and unfavorable conditions for a stated period, such courses to be provided in the institutions at Lansing and Saginaw and in private homes where possible.

After a discussion of possible methods of raising money for carrying out the plans approved by the Association, a fund approximating \$140.00 was raised or pledged in the form of voluntary contributions for this purpose, the ladies present, both sighted and sightless, vying with the men in the generosity of their sacrifices for the common cause.

At the close of the convention the outlook for the Association was very hopeful indeed, its active membership in good standing (now exceeding one hundred) having more than doubled during the past two years. The social and purely entertaining features of the program were greatly enjoyed, as was also the opportunity for becoming acquainted with the work and members of the Institution and with the current experiments in facility and accuracy of reading by touch in the different tactile point systems and with the truly able and amiable conductors of that important work, afforded in the latter part of the conference and during the ensuing week by the welcome presence at the Institution of Miss L. Pearl Howard and Mrs. Elwyn H. Fowler, the authorized testing field agents of the Uniform Type Committee in their present impartial scientific investigation of the relative merits of the competing relief punctographic systems now in use in the United States and Canada, to be reported upon at the Jacksonville convention of the general Association in 1913. These and other visitors, in common with the members in attendance, expressed themselves as deeply indebted to Supt. and Mrs. Putnam, Miss Bessie M. Sutherland, Matron

of the Institution, and the good people of Saginaw generally for so kindly doing all in their power to make this three-days' conference and biennial reunion an agreeable and unsurpassed success; and a most cordial expression of thanks has been tendered by the Executive Committee to Supt. Putnam and Sec'y. F. Bruce Smith of the Board of Trustees for their informal invitation to hold the Association's next biennial conference also at the Institution in 1914.

The Association emphasized the importance of completing and extending the current registration of the blind of the state and of undertaking a more direct and searching investigation of the condition and needs of the sightless at their homes through one or more field secretaries when the proper plans and means can be provided for; also of more effective work through the State Board of Health and through improved legislation in the direction of prevention of unnecessary blindness, as suggested in Prof. L. A. Chase's valuable paper hereunto appended.

No immediate or definite action was authorized pertaining to the suggested establishment of a so-called "State Commission for the Blind," although several of the participants seemed favorable to some steps in that direction at an early date; but their ideas concerning the objects or chief tasks to be assigned to such a commission did not seem very definite or consistent; and speakers who had the most to say upon the subject of falling in line with other communities in this matter, clearly overlooked the fact that the major part of the work now done by such commissions in other states referred to is already otherwise provided for in Michigan; and unless great care is exercised in delimiting separate spheres of helpful activity, more or less hindering confusion would be apt to result from overlapping undertakings. It was pointed out as probable that the state authorities would not be easily persuaded at this time to multiply state boards for manifestly kindred tasks, and that, for the present at least, it would seem wise to attempt what is really desirable through existing agencies and organizations, rather than through any hasty multiplication of public boards. If necessary investigation, prevention, or relief work is now neglected, mainly through lack of available means for its satisfactory accomplishment, why should it not be provided for by a specific item of appropriation in the regular biennial appropriation bill for one or more of the existing state organizations, so framed that it may not be diverted to other purposes nor made an onerous burden to an existing branch of public service, enhancing the ordinary per-capita rating of any such institution or board, etc?

With a State Board of Corrections and Charities, a State Board of Health, a State Board of Education, a Board of Control of the Michigan School for the Blind, a Board of Trustees of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind, and the Executive Committee of the Michigan Welfare Branch of the American Association of Workers for the Blind to choose from or to distribute any new and costly philanthropic undertakings among, why should there be any present agitation for the creation of a new commission to take up some of the work needed in behalf of those handicapped or in danger of becoming handicapped by blindness?

By sections 8 and 9 of the charter of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind (Act 169, P. A. of 1903), its Board of Trustees is authorized to receive and apply gifts and legacies and appropriations

for the benefit of any class of blind persons; and if the requisite funds and practicable plans were forthcoming, it is hardly to be doubted that that honorable body would most cheerfully take up and carry forward any such educational, vocational, or humanitarian work for the adult blind of the state at large as should be provided for at public expense or at the expense of discreet philanthropists disposed to entrust funds to the Board for such purpose. But, of course, the matter would need to be properly brought before the management of that Institution and before the Legislature or other grantor of such funds in their behalf, and the requisite means and safeguards secured for the accomplishment of the work in ways that would not weaken or menace the good work already in progress through that organization and other existing departments of the public service. The friends of the blind everywhere may properly urge their respective representatives in the Legislature to co-operate in securing needful legislation, law-enforcement, and other legitimate forms of collective public action for the relief of the various classes or groups of their handicapped fellow-citizens.

Among the other subjects considered in the Conference were: "The Needs of the Blind," "Reciprocity Between the Blind and the Seeing," "What Can Michigan do for Her Blind Women?" and "How to Raise the Money Required for the Work of the Association"?

A revised constitution for the branch Association was unanimously adopted, and the following officers were elected for the ensuing term of four years: President, Miss Roberta A. Griffith, of Grand Rapids; Vice-Presidents, Mr. Floyd R. Wait, of Lansing, and Mr. Fred Dickman, of Port Huron; Secretary, Miss Clara M. Willson, of Clifford; and Treasurer, Mr. John P. Smith, of Ionia.

The conclusions and recommendations of the Association were embodied in a series of resolutions, as indicated below.

ACTION OF THE BLIND PEOPLE'S STATE ORGANIZATION, 1912.

(1) Letter of Secretary Clara M. Willson.

Clifford, Mich., Nov. 15, 1912.

Supt. Frank G. Putnam, Saginaw, (W. S.), Mich.

Dear Mr. Putnam:—Enclosed please find a copy of resolutions passed by the Michigan Welfare Branch of the American Association of Workers for the Blind at its seventh biennial conference, which was convened in Saginaw Sept. 4-6, (1912); also resolutions passed by the executive committee at its session on Sept. 7, ('12). I regret that circumstances prevented my forwarding these to you sooner; but the delay has been unavoidable. We trust, however, that you will accept them as an expression of our gratitude to you.

Sincerely,

CLARA M. WILLSON.

[Secretary].

(2) Resolutions Adopted Sept. 6, 1912.

Resolved, by the Michigan Welfare Branch of the American Association of Workers for the Blind in biennial conference assembled at Saginaw West Side, Sept. 4, 5, and 6, 1912:—*1, 2

1. That we rejoice in the prevalence, in constantly increasing degrees, of the spirit of kindly service, mutual helpfulness, and considerate reciprocity between the blind and the seeing, and desire to register our gratitude for the inestimable privilege of being enrolled among the usefully occupied, interdependent members of society, striving, through creditable industry, earnest thoughtfulness and a manifested interest in the well-being of our fellow-men, to win in some degree our self-respect and the confidence and reasonable sympathy and co-operation of our fellow-citizens and a suitable share in the world's work.

*2. That we wish to commend the management of the Michigan School for the Blind and of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind for all their well-considered efforts and announced plans to improve their respective courses of instruction, to render available increased opportunities for remunerative employment and other useful activities of the blind, and generally to ameliorate the condition of their handicapped beneficiaries and broadly to increase the efficiency of their several departments of authorized service.

*3. (a.) That we are truly thankful to the good people of Michigan for the disposition manifested by their honored representatives at the Capitol to afford the means necessary to provide for efficiently carrying forward the several useful and philanthropic undertakings already authorized; and we earnestly entreat a continuance of the practice of liberality toward the existing agencies of helpful service to the blind of this state. And (b) that we especially commend to the favorable attention of the Legislature and of the several boards of control the granting and application of all proper facilities for increasing both the range of the practical subjects taught and the thoroughness of the instruction afforded, to the end that the learners may be well prepared for successful participation in the gainful and other practical activities of life.

*4. That we renew our recommendation of increased liberality toward the equipment and efficient management of the free circulating library for the blind of Michigan, required by law to be maintained as a department of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind, to the end that at least one copy of every valuable work printed in current embossed types for the use of the sightless may be made available upon the shelves of that library for free circulation by mail as loans to the blind at their homes throughout the state under the existing free mailage concession of the United States Government.

*5. That we commend the action of the Hon. Board of Trustees of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind in directing the preparation and maintenance of a thorough registration of the blind inhabitants of this State; and we pledge our support to the making of that registration as complete and serviceable as possible, and our interest in

*1 Resolutions 10, 11 and the annexed action of the Executive Committee were submitted with the foregoing communication from Secretary Clara M. Willson to Superintendent Putnam, Nov. 15, 1912.

*2 Resolutions 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 submitted with similar communication of even date through Secretary F. Bruce Smith of the Board of Trustees.

the prospective published tabulation of its results from time to time, as a basis for seeking needed public and private provision for various classes or groups of blind persons. And we favor the appointment and suitable support of a qualified field agent or a number of such agents to canvass the state to ascertain at close range the actual condition and needs of the blind throughout the state, and the adoption of a general plan of co-operation with local undertakings in the same direction.

6. That all reasonable efforts and measures toward the prevention of unnecessary blindness should be heartily supported and encouraged; and the Executive Committee of this Michigan Welfare Branch of the American Association of Workers for the Blind is hereby authorized and directed to co-operate in every practicable way with other organizations and individuals in promotion of any and all well-considered measures having this object in view.

7. That we especially and most earnestly urge the State Board of Health of Michigan to exercise all the authority vested in that honorable board to deal with the great evil of unnecessary blindness in our midst; and we earnestly recommend, and will heartily support, more stringent legislation in regard to prophylaxis; to the registration and qualification of midwives; and the better enforcement of the Michigan law of 1895 requiring reports to be made of pathogenic conditions in the eyes of young children.

8. That the further practical questions and topics considered by this branch association at its seventh biennial conference, and especially those relating to the further service that Michigan may properly render to her blind women, and those relative to various available methods of raising or securing the money required for carrying on the work of this organization, be referred to the Executive Committee, with full authority to act upon such of the suggestions offered as may be deemed expedient.

9. That we hereby renew the assurances heretofore given of the disposition of this association to co-operate heartily with all well-considered movements and agencies for the promotion of the welfare of any and all groups or classes of needy blind persons in harmony with the general welfare; also for the prevention of unnecessary blindness at any age and from any cause that may be within the proper control of the state or individuals or of particular industries, etc.

*1, 210. That the thanks of the Association are due and are heartily tendered to the Hon. Board of Trustees of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind; to Supt. and Mrs. Putnam; to Miss Sutherland, matron of the Institution; to the other officers and employes, and all who have been in any way instrumental in promoting the happy consummation of the seventh biennial conference of this branch association, in which service they have been successful to the entire satisfaction and gratification of all present. We are particularly under obligation to the Saginaw-Bay City Railway Co., the Saginaw Board of Trade, the trustees of the Saginaw Auditorium, and the organist Dr. Geo. H. Sweet, for the delightful street-car ride about the city (given the Association and its guests on the afternoon of Sept. 4th), and the excellent organ recital at the magnificent Auditorium, of which Saginaw is so justly proud; also to the two Saginaw ladies, Mrs. Percy Gerhart and Miss Gwendolyn Sawyer, who so kindly favored us with most pleasing vocal solos; also to the Saginaw daily papers for kindly devoting so much space to the announcement and review of the proceedings of the convention.

*11. That the several individuals (other than active members) who have so kindly contributed or pledged contributions to the funds of our Association to the aggregate amount of approximately \$150.00, be entered upon the rolls of the Association as "contributing associate members."

12. That we are especially sensible of our obligation to Mrs. Addie Walther, of Grand Rapids, Mrs. E. H. Fowler, of Watertown, Mass., and Miss L. Pearl Howard, of Oakley, Iowa, for their kind, helpful and encouraging words and most cheerful participation in our tasks and burden-bearing.

(3) Executive Committee Action.

Resolved, by the joint Executive Committee of the Michigan Welfare Branch of the American Association of Workers for the Blind, in session at Saginaw West Side, Sept 7, 1912:—

*1 That we extend a vote of thanks to Mr. Putnam for his extreme kindness and cordiality throughout our entire stay at the Institution.

*1 That we express our thanks to Mr. Putnam and Mr. Smith of the Board of Control of the Institution, for the invitation to return to the Institution for our convention in two years, and will consider the matter at a future meeting of the Executive Committee.

THE PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

Read and discussed before the Saginaw conference of the Mich. Welfare Branch of the American Association of the Workers for the Blind, Sept. 5, 1912.

BY L. A. CHASE, M. A.

Instructor in History, Hancock High School.

It is very proper that the Michigan Blind People's Association should consider the subject of the prevention of blindness. In many instances we are the legatees of ancestral ignorance or carelessness. We know the cost; we would save this cost to others. A very large fraction of all the cases of total or partial blindness are unnecessary and preventable. We want to realize this fact and advertise it where good may come of our advertisement.

The considerations which I wish briefly to lay before you are founded principally upon three sources of information. First, upon personal experience; secondly, upon various lectures by members of the medical faculty of the University of Michigan, and upon conversations and correspondence with them; and thirdly, upon publications of the Committee on the Prevention of Blindness, New York city. This subject, however, for our purposes, is not one which seems to call for exhaustive research. The problem is quite clear and simple, and so is the remedy.

By the prevention of blindness we do not commonly refer to the prevention of accidental blindness. We refer to the prevention of blindness traceable in one way or another to the parents or more remote ancestors

of a blind child. This sort of blindness is congenital or hereditary. Hereditary blindness is supposed to come about from some influence upon the primal germ cells before conception. Congenital blindness results from some influence upon the fetus before or during birth. An important example of hereditary blindness is Retinitis Pigmentosa; of congenital blindness, is Ophthalmia Neonatorum. The latter disease is credited with from a quarter to a half of all the cases of blindness.

If we seek to deal with the problem of the prevention of blindness, it is necessary at once to distinguish between hereditary and congenital blindness. It is necessary to know the law of heredity, if discoverable, in accordance with which blindness is transmitted from parent to child. It is necessary to know what particular diseases of the eye are likely thus to be transmitted and what are not. It is necessary to know how congenital influences are likely to affect the eyes, and in what cases such effects are to be looked for—what particular diseases are congenital in their origin. Now I am not a medical man, and do not feel competent to classify all diseases of the eye with reference to the above or other considerations; but upon a typical case in each class—the hereditary and the congenital—I have been at some pains to inform myself from time to time, and will lay before you what seem to be the facts as a layman regards them, but a layman who has sought expert advice that all will concede as reliable. Let us first take up perhaps the most typical and important hereditary disease of the eyes. It is Retinitis Pigmentosa. It is a disease which is not often met with; yet it is well known to the eye clinic, and is particularly dangerous, since it appears and reappears in successive generations of the same family. While the exterior of the eye appears to be quite normal the retina is affected in such a way as seriously to impair sight. Characteristic symptoms of the disease are night blindness and restricted lateral vision. Some features of this disease seem not to be agreed on by ophthalmologists. It has been asserted and denied that it is due to consanguineous relationship among ancestors. It has also been commonly said that it appears only in males; but I was informed by Dr. George Slocum, connected with the optical work in the University Hospital, that he had recently discovered cases of the disease among women. There can be no doubt that it appears in successive generations of the same family. I can attest to at least eight cases in one family. It usually appears in alternate generations, only in males, but in males descended from females of the family in which Retinitis Pigmentosa has appeared. With Retinitis Pigmentosa, therefore, the problem of preventing blindness is related to marriage and the rearing of children. The question is this: May blind people, or a blind person, marry without a risk of begetting a blind child? The answer depends upon the nature of the eye disease and the rule of heredity applicable thereto. In the case of inherited eye defects, complete safety lies only in complete abstention. Retinitis Pigmentosa is such a disease, but the rule of its progression through a family is somewhat peculiar, and, if this rule, which has already been given, is not transgressed, disastrous consequences may not follow. But the rule certainly is not invariable, and parents have to consider the risk they are running in respect to those who may suffer even as they themselves are suffering. In a personal letter, which I am permitted to quote herein, Dr. A. S. Warthin, Professor of Pathology in

the Department of Medicine and Surgery of the University of Michigan, thus puts the case:

"As a father myself I can conceive of no greater deprivation to a man or a woman than the inability to have children, and I do not know how far society should go in practical eugenics. I think men and women having such inherited defects should ask themselves whether with their own experience they would wish to saddle it upon a child." "When we judge this matter from the standpoint of society," he continues, "and from an economic standpoint there can be but one answer to the question, and that is that in any condition known absolutely to be transmissible, procreation should be avoided." In the list of inherited eye defects, Dr. Warthin places albinism, smallness of the eye-ball, myopia, color blindness, Retinitis Pigmentosa, in which "There is a danger that the progeny will develop the same condition and become blind.

Regarding the rearing of children, the question is often raised, "Is it safe for blind people to marry?" Now no general answer to this question is to be given. The liability of a blind parent to transmit his disease to his offspring differs among the various causes of blindness. Conduct is to be determined by the exact ascertainment of his, or her, own disorder. Thus in the case of what is probably the most common single cause of blindness—*Ophthalmia Neonatorum*—there is no danger that the parent will transmit the disease to his descendants, unless he has by an infection quite different from that which produced his blindness, been prepared, just as a sighted person, to infect others. This *Ophthalmia Neonatorum*, which is by competent authorities held responsible for at least one-fourth or even a larger fraction of all the cases of blindness, is a disease closely associated with one of the forms of venereal disease known as Gonorrhea. This fact is not always pointed out in published discussions of *Ophthalmia Neonatorum*, but it is the purpose of this paper to state the whole case as simply and frankly as may be. Gonorrhea is one of the three diseases involved in social misconduct; and one of its most terrible consequences is blindness in thousands of cases otherwise quite unnecessary. The course of the malady is likely to be as follows: A person through misconduct or accidental contagion becomes infected with the organism which is the active cause of Gonorrhea. If a man thus infected marries he infects his wife. In whatever way infected, the wife is likely to infect her child on becoming a mother. A common, although not the only way for the infection to manifest itself in the new-born child, is in the disease known as *Ophthalmia Neonatorum*, colloquially called "babies' sore eyes." Now the point to be noted here is this: while the child can hardly escape infection, so far as his eyes are concerned, he can escape blindness most certainly, if the attending physician or midwife does what is immediately required. What is required is this: When a very young infant shows redness of the eyes, perhaps with concurrent discharge, the person having knowledge of the fact should at once notify a physician, if he or she does not feel competent to meet the emergency. The physician will disinfect the eyes with a standard remedy, probably two drops of a one per cent solution of silver nitrate of only nominal cost. This simple, sure, and inexpensive remedy once applied will probably save the baby from lifelong blindness, regardless of antecedent conditions if delay has been avoided.

Yet the foregoing simple precaution has been shamefully neglected.

I shall not here present statistics in detail and completeness. The facts are patent. Picking up a recent report of the Michigan School for the Blind, I turned to the list of pupils and noted that, out of the one hundred and thirty-six pupils whose names were entered there, the cause of blindness in sixteen cases was set down as Ophthalmia Neonatorum; while the cause of blindness in twenty-nine other cases was given as "congenital." Ophthalmia Neonatorum is usually a congenital disease; but even if the twenty-nine cases of "congenital" blindness did not include any of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, the sixteen victims of human licentiousness in the first instance, and of human carelessness in the second instance, make up a discreditable account against our present status in the line of progress. The good State of Michigan, since 1895, has had a law requiring that wherever within two weeks after birth redness and pus discharges appear in the eyes of an infant, the attending mid-wife, nurse, or other person having the child in charge, shall at once inform the local health officer or a duly qualified physician. Yet the institution at Lansing received each year, and will continue to receive, pupils who need not have been eligible to admission therein, had this law and what it calls for been observed. Looking to our own state, therefore, we meet at once an administrative defect in the execution of this salutary law, which I hope the State Board of Health is anxious to remedy. I believe that this association will do well to direct the attention of this board to the subject. Dr. Dixon, its secretary, writes me as follows: "I cannot say that the State Board of Health is contemplating an active propaganda for the prevention of blindness or means to advocate further legislation at present. I do believe that it is an important subject and should receive careful consideration at the hands of this board. I shall place the subject upon the program for consideration at the next board meeting." Existing laws, the Secretary admits, "do permit the State Board of Health as well as the local boards of health to deal with the subject through regulations." Individually, and as an association of people vitally interested in this matter, we should urge that the State Board of Health exercise its powers in this respect to the full.

While related to social malpractices, the problem of infant Ophthalmia as already presented often is treated without reference thereto. It is well, however, for us to appreciate the larger problem of which it forms a part; and to lay before our fellows the possible consequences of such misconduct. Work of this kind has been undertaken by the University of Michigan, principally through the head of its Department of Pathology, Dr. A. S. Warthin, whose great authority on this subject is recognized by all informed people. Last winter and earlier Dr. Warthin delivered many lectures throughout the state specifically on the subject of sexual hygiene; but he is at pains to lay forth the possibility of blindness among the other fruits of the social evil. If the members of this association are interested in bringing Dr. Warthin to their localities they should early take up the matter with the Extension Lecture Department of the University of Michigan, under the direction of Prof. W. D. Henderson.

Although the Secretary of the State Board of Health assures me that existing laws permit him to make regulations, in connection with the State Board, for the furtherance of the work which we have here in view, I should be glad to see existing laws somewhat strengthened. I have been assured that the most careful physicians already are wont

to guard against infection of eyes of the new-born, regardless of the known presence of pathogenic conditions. I do not see why it should not be made legally obligatory that the certificate of birth should have entered thereon a statement that a suitable prophylactic had been employed, naming the prophylactic applied. If observed, this practice should greatly reduce the total of blind persons in Michigan, for I have already stated that Ophthalmia Neonatorum is the cause of one-fourth or more of all the cases of blindness. The approved prophylactic—two drops of a one per cent solution of silver nitrate—is, it appears, wholly harmless to the eyes themselves, while certain to prevent the progress of the disease.

We are living in an age when medical science has undertaken the eradication of some of the most dreaded of human physical ills. We have seen the public attitude in regard to tuberculosis quite revolutionized; and blindness ought to be similarly regarded, as something which ought very largely to disappear from the earth. The American Medical Association has taken up the problem. The work in this state has been put by the association under the direction of Professor Walter R. Parker, professor of Ophthalmology in the Department of Medicine and Surgery, of the University of Michigan. I am not informed as to Dr. Parker's recent activities in this connection, but a year ago he was delivering lectures on the subject of the hygiene of the eye; and, I believe, is still ready to do so as a part of the new Extension Lecture work of the University. The education of the public mind in this matter is of immediate prime importance. In private conversation we should advertise a saner conception of the cause and cure of blindness. We should bring home to physicians and parents a keener sense of duty to posterity. We should furnish matter for the newspapers. In this matter we can get much printed material dealing with this subject from the Committee on the Prevention of Blindness, the Russell Sage Foundation, 105 East 22nd street, New York city. This committee puts out a variety of pamphlets designed to inform the public on the subject of the prevention of blindness. These documents are free. It also furnishes lantern slides to be used in visual exhibitions. I may also refer to a report on Ophthalmia Neonatorum, published by the American Medical Association, at 103 Dearborn street, Chicago. The United States Surgeon-General's office in the Treasury Department has published a pamphlet presenting an account of existing legislation and regulations apropos this subject. I have not herein made excerpts from these publications. To do so would too greatly extend this paper; while the documents are available to you for full perusal. I should like, however, to see this association adopt resolutions emphatically urging the State Board of Health of Michigan to exercise all the authority it may have to deal with this great evil in our midst and perhaps calling for more stringent legislation in regard to prophylaxis, the registration and qualifications of midwives; and calling for the better enforcement of the law of 1895 requiring reports to be made of pathogenic conditions in the eyes of young children. I regret that I am unable to be with you to participate in the discussion.

L. A. CHASE.

City High School, Hancock, Mich.

EXPRESSIONS OF REGRET.

EXTRACTS FROM A FEW TYPICAL LETTERS RECEIVED FROM MEMBERS AND FRIENDS UNABLE TO ATTEND THE REUNION.

Iron Mountain, Mich., Aug. 11, 1912.

Mr. A. M. Shotwell, Librarian, Employment Institution for the Blind,
Saginaw W. S., Michigan.

Dear Friend—As I am trying to make my way in the world as a piano tuner and music teacher I would like to examine the Jacksonville catalog before purchasing same; and, as a friend of mine is gone who used to read to me a great deal, I must begin to make use of your library, for I must have reading matter.

How time flies! Today I received an invitation to attend our reunion in Saginaw. However, I hardly think that I will be able to attend the meeting. We are three piano tuners in this city of about nine thousand, and an occasional traveling tuner; and competition is somewhat keen, since I am the only blind tuner in the county. But thanks to my training in the School, I am gaining steadily. Heretofore I have not entered into my work with sufficient determination, but at last I have succeeded in arousing myself from idleness and now I am in the race in earnest.

September is a busy month, and I must not neglect a single opportunity to increase my reputation. The place of reunion is some distance from here, and the trip would entail a traveling expense of a little better than \$20, and added to this must be board, lodging and other small expenses, making a probable total of not far from \$30, besides the time of travel and attendance, which could not be less than five days at the least.

If I cannot attend this meeting I hope sincerely to be able to attend succeeding meetings. I will shortly write to Miss Griffith and ascertain how I stand with the association financially, and will do all I can along that line.

In (a circular accompanying) the invitation which I received today mention is made of a register of the blind kept in Saginaw. Will you kindly inform me in regard to same, and whether there are any data which I could furnish?

Trusting to hear from you soon, I remain,

Yours fraternally,

ALDRICK J. TREPANIER.

The Register-Weekly: Tom F. Robinson, Publisher,

Union City, Michigan, August 31, 1912.

Mr. A. M. Shotwell, Saginaw W. S., Mich.

My Dear Mr. Shotwell—I am in receipt of your kind letter and personal invitation to attend the meeting of the Michigan Welfare Association in your city next week. To tell the truth I had previously re-

ceived the official invitation, as well as your message per Superintendent Putnam. I had not responded hoping that affairs would so shape themselves that I could attend this meeting, but now I know that I cannot do so—greatly to my regret.

Although a member of the association I have never attended one of the meetings, and, in fact, I have never attended any gathering of blind people. I feel very guilty, for I really am interested in the work, but thus far I do not seem to have benefitted the cause any, excepting the little individual work I have been able to do, such, for instance, as I tried this week, in inducing a blind brother to go to your institution.

As you may know, I am very busy. Two years ago I purchased this newspaper and plant, and my duties are to edit it, have personal charge of the advertising, and also attend to the business end of the business. You probably know that with only six weeks of your excellent training at Saginaw I was enabled to return to my former duties and conduct them without sight. So I owe a heavy debt of gratitude to the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind, and I shall not soon forget it.

Through the Ziegler Magazine I have learned of the work of the committee of the type question and I feel certain that some correct decision will be reached in the matter.

By the way, I have seen several times mention of "The Outlook for the Blind." What is this publication? I receive Ziegler's, the Milwaukee Review and the Michigan Magazine, printed at Lansing. These are all I know. Would you kindly provide me with a list of any others? I read both Braille and Point, and would like to receive all the periodicals that are worth while, as these days I find time for no other point reading.

Tonight I am homesick to visit the Employment Institution, for my brief stay there was very pleasant, although at the time I was passing through my first weeks of darkness. Although I cannot attend the Welfare meeting I have promised myself a visit to your place some time this autumn. Please convey my best wishes to the members of the Welfare Association. I shall be with them some day, and I am very sorry that it cannot be this time. Also kindly remember me to any Saginaw friends who may remember me.

Again assuring you of my appreciation of all you have personally done for me, and with regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

TOM F. ROBINSON.

Office of the Matilda Ziegler Magazine for the Blind, 250 West 54th street, New York, August 26, 1912.

Mr. A. M. Shotwell, Institution for the Blind, Saginaw W. S., Mich.

Dear Mr. Shotwell—Your letter of the 23rd inst. is just received, and I thank you very much for your kind invitation to be present with you on the 4th, 5th and 6th of September. I assure you nothing would give me more pleasure. I have never had the pleasure of a visit to that section of Michigan, and while I will not be able to go this year I hope I can be present at one of your meetings another year.

It means much to the cause to have these gatherings in various parts of the country, for the interchange of ideas is most helpful and all of

us learn something from mingling with others who have given thought along certain lines that others had overlooked.

Please extend to the members that attend my best wishes for the success of this meeting and for the future of the blind of your state. They and their friends have shown a most progressive spirit, and they deserve every success.

With best wishes also to you personally, I am,

Very truly yours,

WALTER G. HOLMES,

Manager.

70 N. Park street, Oberlin, O., Aug. 29, 1912.

To the American Association Workers for the Blind, Michigan Branch at Saginaw.

Dear Friends—Through the courtesy of Mr. Shotwell I have just received the program of the biennial conference which is to be held soon. Always counting myself among "Friends interested in the welfare of the blind," I am thankful for the invitation thus extended, to be one of your number during the days of the convention. And as distance and other circumstances prevent my having that privilege which would certainly afford great pleasure I wish to send a word of greeting to you, expressing the hope that this social reunion and the conference upon the various questions which are to be considered may result in more than anticipated pleasure to everyone present and in the desired benefit to all who may be affected by your deliberations.

I am so situated that I have neither time nor opportunity to keep in touch with movements which may be in progress relating to the blind. I accidentally saw an article recently concerning an effort to secure uniformity in the system of reading, but have seen no subsequent reference to it.

I come very little in contact with blind people. I do not know of a blind child in Oberlin. There are three or four people here, but they are past middle life.

Your time is valuable and I will not further encroach upon it. Believe me always interested and hoping for you the best things.

Most cordially,

FRANCES A. L. CHURCH.

(Mrs. E. P.)

P. S.—I am adding to this in a note to Mr. Shotwell a little sketch of present conditions of myself and family. Those who were formerly associated with us at Lansing may learn by inquiry. I enjoy seeing so many familiar names.

F. A. L. C.



Men's
Dormitory.

Factory.

Administration
Building.

Women's Dormitory.

FIRST BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE

MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

FOR THE FRACTIONAL TERM ENDED JUNE 30, 1904.

(Appended to Fifth Biennial Report, 1912, because not previously printed, and because of numerous requests for copies of same.)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

W. G. VanAuken, President Saginaw
Joseph Hudson, Treasurer Clare
W. S. Bateman, Secretary Albion

Regular meeting, last Monday of each month.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1 Reading Minutes of Previous Meeting.
 - 2 Reading and Reference of Petitions and Communications.
 - 3 Reports and Suggestions from Superintendent.
 - 4 Executive Session.
 - 5 Reports of Standing Committees.
 - 6 Reports of Special Committees.
 - 7 Auditing Claims.
 - 8 Unfinished and Miscellaneous Business.
 - 9 Executive Session.
 - 10 Adjournment.
-

OFFICERS.

J. P. Hamilton Superintendent
Rachael R. Ross Clerk and Bookkeeper
A. M. Shotwell Librarian and Assistant Supt.
Lenna M. Mead Matron
L. W. Bliss, M. D.....Physician
Fleming Carrow, M. D.....Consulting Oculist and Aurist

TEACHERS.

Chas. H. VanEtten Broom Making
Eva C. Hehn Domestic Science
Ambrose M. Shotwell Reading, Writing, Typewriting

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Hon. Aaron T. Bliss, Governor of Michigan.

The Trustees of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind herewith submit their first biennial report:

By Act 169, Laws 1903, it was provided that there should be maintained in some city in this State, having a population of not less than ten thousand inhabitants, an institution for the training, care and employment of adult blind persons, and the sum of \$110,001.00 was appropriated for the erection and maintenance of such institution until July 1, 1905.

Following the instruction contained in Act 169, Laws of 1903, Gov. A. T. Bliss appointed the following board: W. G. VanAuken, Saginaw, for term ending January 1, 1909; Joseph Hudson, Clare, January 1, 1907; J. Perrine Hamilton, Battle Creek, January 1, 1905. On June 23, 1903, the board met in the city of Saginaw and organized as follows: W. G. VanAuken, president; Joseph Hudson, treasurer, and J. Perrine Hamilton, secretary.

Immediately after its organization the board proceeded to procure a suitable site. As only \$1.00 was appropriated by the establishing act, for the acquisition of a site, some city in the State was expected to donate suitable grounds. Saginaw, having offered several very desirable sites, the board, after a careful consideration of their respective merits, decided to ask for a plot of seven acres located on the north side of Houghton avenue, Saginaw West Side. A subscription was then started and the desired land purchased by the citizens at a cost of \$4,700, and presented to the people of the State of Michigan. The piece of land, now constituting the institution grounds, is located opposite a magnificent park, which was purchased by Governor and Mrs. Bliss and presented to the city. With streets on three sides and the park to the south our grounds are so situated that other buildings can never be crowded close to them—thus destroying the grouping of the buildings and the perspective.

Architects were at once employed, plans prepared and approved by the Board of Trustees, December 29, 1903. Advertisements were then inserted in ten leading newspapers of this State for six successive weeks, soliciting bids for the construction of the buildings, which bids were opened February 24, 1904, and contracts awarded at a special meeting of the board, March 15, 1904. The ground was broken for construction of the buildings about May 1st.

Nothing causing serious delay, the buildings have progressed rapidly and at this date are nearly completed, in fact were so far along on November 15 that work was begun in the broom factory with twenty men. The formal opening and dedication will not take place, however, until December 22, 1904.

Careful investigation of other institutions for the blind led us to

believe that a group of buildings would be much better than one large one. Consequently the plans adopted called for two dormitories—one each for men and women—with rooms large enough for two. The offices, parlors, auditorium, dining rooms and kitchen are located in a central administration building, a factory 100 feet in the rear of the administration building, with boiler rooms and laundry in the basement, completes the group and furnishes ample accommodations for about one hundred working men and apprentices.

The foundations of the buildings throughout are of heavy stone masonry with the superstructure of paving brick. The style of architecture combined with the stone and brick gives a striking appearance of durability and solidity.

Of the \$75,000.00 appropriated for the erection and furnishing of the buildings, \$46,063.90 has already been expended, and the balance will all be paid out by December 15 in fulfilling the contracts. Of the \$10,000.00 appropriated for the year ending June 30, 1904, for current expenses only \$2,748.80 was expended, leaving \$7,251.20 to be turned back into the state treasury. About \$1,800.00 has been used from the \$25,000.00 appropriated for the year ending June 30, 1905, for current expenses.

On Oct. 1, 1903, Wm. H. Klenke was appointed superintendent; but on account of ill health, he was obliged to resign on March 1, 1904. To fill this unexpected vacancy, the president and treasurer of the Board in conjunction with Governor Bliss decided to Ask J. Perrine Hamilton to resign his position as secretary and accept the superintendency. The above members of the Board took this action, after careful consideration, believing Mr. Hamilton to be the most available man to go on with the work, his thorough knowledge of educational and industrial work for the blind both in America and foreign countries, giving him great advantage over others considered. On March 21, Mr. W. S. Bateman, of Albion, was appointed secretary to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Hamilton's resignation.

The work proposed for this Institution is of a broad character. Careful investigation shows that broom-making, mattress-making and piano-tuning are the most remunerative pursuits open to the majority of the blind people. For this reason, these trades will be the principal ones taught. But there are many other pursuits, such as shoe-making, chair-caning, willow work both in chair and basketry, for men, and fancy-work, knitting and crocheting, plain sewing, hammock-making and house-work for the women, open to capable blind people; and it is our plan to treat individual cases individually.

We append to our report a circular, by Superintendent Hamilton, explaining the objects and purposes of the Institution.

Respectfully submitted,

W. G. VAN ALKEN, Prest.,

JOSEPH HUDSON,

W. S. BATEMAN,

Board of Trustees.

APPROPRIATIONS.

Saginaw W. S., Mich., September 29, 1904.

To the State Board of Corrections and Charities, Lansing, Mich.

Gentlemen—Inclosed please find estimate sheet made out by our Board for the special and current expenses needed by this institution during the biennial period beginning June 30, 1905.

I will ask to call your attention to the fact that the Auditing Department has so interpreted the act establishing our Institution that our board has not been able to transfer funds as provided in Section seventeen. We shall turn back about seven thousand dollars of the first year's current-expense appropriation and probably twelve thousand of the second year's. From this you will see that the special appropriation asked for is nearly the same as the amount which will be turned back.

Summary of Appropriations needed for each of the two years beginning June 30, 1905.

FOR CURRENT EXPENSES.

First year	\$32,460 00
Second year	32,460 00
Total	\$64,920 00
Less estimated earnings	5,000 00
Appropriation needed for the two years named above..	\$59,920 00

On the basis of the following classification:

1. Salaries and Wages	\$10,260 00
Superintendent	\$1,500 00
Physician	250 00
Bookkeeper	480 00
Matron	540 00
Assistant Matron	480 00
Nurse	360 00
Librarian	420 00
Cottage manager	180 00
Teachers: \$360.00, \$360.00, \$420.00, \$180.00	
\$600.00	1,920 00
Engineer	660 00
Watchman	480 00
Baker	200 00
Cook	360 00
Janitor	540 00
Housemaids (10) \$12.00 per month	1,440 00
Usher	150 00
Seamstress (2)	300 00
2. Food	7,000 00
3. Laundry Expenses	1,400 00
4. Heating	3,400 00

5. Light	\$700 00
Medical expenses	400 00
Stationery, Printing, etc.	500 00
Amusement and Instruction	1,000 00
Household supplies	600 00
Furniture and Bedding	1,000 00
Improvement and Repairs	1,500 00
Tools and Machinery	400 00
Farm, garden, stock and grounds	1,000 00
Freight and Transportation	200 00
Miscellaneous Expenses	600 00
Industrial Training	2,500 00

Total	\$32,460 00
Less estimated earnings	2,000 00

Appropriation needed	\$30,460 00
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Total for second year	\$32,460 00
Less estimated earnings	3,000 00

Appropriation needed	\$29,460 00
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Amount expended during year ending June 30, 1904.

Salaries and Wages	\$1,155 00
Stationery, Printing, etc.	275 27
Amusement and Instruction	3 00
Household Supplies	1 65
Furniture and Bedding	484 25
Improvement and Repairs	224 82
Freight and Transportation	251 29
Miscellaneous Expenses	131 75
Industrial Training	221 77

Total	\$2,748 80
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SPECIAL APPROPRIATION NEEDED

We give below aggregate of each; the details and items required by section 2228, Compiled Laws, 1897, we submit on accompanying sheets.

Fire Escapes	\$1,000 00
Sidewalks	1,500 00
Trees and Shrubs	1,850 00
Filling and Grading	1,500 00
Barn, \$1,500.00; 2 cows, \$70.00; horse, \$200.00; surrey, harness and platform wagon, \$225.00.....	1,995 00
Cottage	6,000 00
Land	1,000 00
Laundry machinery-mangle, \$300.00; engine, \$300.00; starch-cooker, clothes-dryer, and miscellaneous laundry equipment, \$300.00	900 00
Cooling room	350 00
Cistern	1,000 00

Total	\$17,095 00
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Piano Tuning.

STATE BOARD OF CORRECTIONS AND CHARITIES,

Lansing , Mich., Nov. 3, 1904.

Mr. J. P Hamilton, Sup't of the Mich. Emp. Inst for the Blind, Saginaw, Mich.

Dear Sir:—Your commmication to the State Board of Corrections and Charities submitting for its consideration and opinion the proposed appropriations for the institution for the years 1905 and 1906, has been received. The home has been visited and its “conditions and needs investigated.” The appropriations proposed have had careful consideration, and the State Board submits herewith its opinion of the same.

Current Expenses \$59,920 00

There is no data yet on which an exact amount required can be based, but this board understands that from regular applications for admission, and letters received from others wishing to come when the buildings are ready, you have made your estimates. This is doubtless as near as it can be reached. The item is approved.

Sidewalks \$1,500 00
Filling and grading grounds 1,500 00

These new grounds are yet mere commons, and will require much before they are in proper shape. The items are approved.

Trees and Shrubs \$1,850 00

It hardly seems to this board necessary to furnish all this at once; but would favor an appropriation now of only \$500.00.

Barn \$1,500 00

The institution will certainly require a barn for its horses, cows and wagons. The amount asked will all be needed for the purpose; the item is approved.

Two cows \$70 00
One Horse 200 00
Surrey, harness and wagon 225 00

\$495 00

These should not appear in “specials,” as they are doubtless covered in “current expense,” item No. 14 “Farm, garden, stock and grounds,” the items are therefore not approved.

Cottage for superintendent \$6,000 00

Approved.

Land \$1,000 00

It seems important to secure this at the comparatively low price offered to carry the state property to the adjoining street, and secure ground which in the future it will be desirable to have before the price of property in the vicinity advances. The item is approved.

Laundry machinery \$900 00

This machinery, of course, will be needed, and the amount asked is doubtless required. The item is approved.

Cooling room \$350 00

Approved.

Cistern \$1,000 00

The city water, it is claimed, is hard on boilers, and not really suitable for use in the bath-rooms and laundry. It is proposed to secure and utilize the rain water from the large surface of roofing of your buildings by conducting it into a cistern. This, the board deems wise. The amount asked seems large, but so is the cistern to be "as large as feasible," and the amount may be required. The item is approved.

The Board notes what you say about the amount of the appropriation of 1903 which was covered back into the State Treasury. That it is some four thousand dollars more than you ask for specials; so that practically if the legislature of 1905 grants your request for specials, it is not quite returning to you the amount granted you for "current expenses" by the legislature of 1903, which has gone back to the State treasury.

Yours respectfully,

GEO. D. GILLESPIE.

Chairman.

L. C. STORRS.

Secretary.

NEEDS AND AIMS.

The Chief Needs of Adult Blind Persons and the Chief Aims of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind. A Circular of Information and Inquiry by J. Perrine Hamilton, Sup't. Saginaw W. S., Michigan.

Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind,
Superintendent's Office, Saginaw W. S., Mich.,
October 1, 1904.

To the Worthy Blind People of Michigan:

On my own part and on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind, now nearing completion, permit me to extend very hearty greetings; and please accept the assurance of our earnest wish to do all that is possible to increase the usefulness and happiness of the blind people of this state. I desire to invite your kind co-operation in the effort to make known the character and objects of the institution to all those who may be benefited by any of its several departments or kinds of helpful service, and to favor us with any information that may aid us in more perfectly accomplishing the mission which has been assigned to the trustees and officers of the new institution.

This mission we understand to be the affording of a more complete and satisfactory occupation for the hands and minds of those blind people of Michigan who feel the need of such assistance.

Some who are not so situated as to feel the need of a new or special way of earning their own bread and butter are yet in need of reading matter prepared especially for the use of the blind, and, in some cases, in need of special instruction to enable them to read the characters employed in such publications.

The benefits of the institution will not be restricted to those wishing to learn the trades taught. The industrial branch of our work must receive a large measure of our attention.

For those who may enter the institution as learners or as wage workers, the chief aim must be to render them self-helpful and financially independent.

Many who receive this communication may not feel a need of the instruction or the employment which this institution is largely designed to afford.

There are blind persons of good character who are unable, by their own earnings or by the incomes of their estates, to defray the cost of their own maintenance; and in some cases their relatives are unable to afford them a comfortable support. Some of these might and should master a trade that would enable them to contribute to their own support, and would at the same time relieve them and those about them of the misery or serious depression which their enforced idleness has imposed.

The State of Michigan has not provided for the permanent support of blind persons at the institution at public expense.

The first aim must be directly or indirectly to afford remunerative employment, either at the institution or elsewhere, to those blind persons who are, or who with proper instruction and training may readily become, capable and willing wage earners, able with part of their earnings to pay for their board, lodging, clothing, etc., at the institution or to win their ways independently in the world at large.

During a reasonable period of instruction—which must not in any case exceed three years—those who seem likely thus to become useful and self-supporting citizens, may be freely supported and trained at the institution in such arts, trades or useful callings as may seem likely to render such students afterward self-supporting and successful members of society.

When a reasonable degree of proficiency has been attained in one or more trades, the learner will be transferred to the wage-earning class, being then paid for his work according to his earning ability, and being charged for his board, lodging, washing, etc., at an estimated cost price, yet to be determined.

Married workmen will provide themselves with suitable homes or lodgings outside of the institution, merely coming to the factory to perform their daily tasks, just as ordinary laborers and artisans would go to their work elsewhere. And probably some of the unmarried will prefer to do the same. All reasonable encouragement will be afforded to normal living—to the practice of the ways of orderly citizenship and creditable independence. And those who may be able with their acquired trades to maintain themselves comfortably in the communities where they formerly resided, will be encouraged and, so far as may be practicable and necessary, assisted thus to start in business in shops or enterprises of their own.

The branches of industry to be taught at the outset or introduced during the first two or three years, will probably include, for the men, broom-making, rug-making, mattress-making, hammock and net-making, cane chair seating; and for the women, housework, laundry work, plain sewing, various kinds of fancy work, certain branches of the preceding list of trades, and probably the performance and teaching of music, the teaching of blind adults to read and write, etc.

Appropriate diversion for leisure hours will be afforded; newspaper accounts of passing events, magazine articles and other entertaining literature will be read to the inmates in liberal measure, and opportunities will be sought for the enjoyment of popular lectures, musical and dramatic entertainments, church privileges, etc.

A library of publications in current styles of embossed—line and point—characters for the use of the blind of Michigan, both within and without the institution, will be maintained, and a reading circle will be conducted.

All blind residents of this state are accordingly requested to send their respective names and post office addresses to the undersigned superintendent, and to inform him concerning the style or styles of embossed writing and printing which they are able to read, or concerning their desire for assistance in learning to read and write.

The institution is also required by law to maintain an employment bureau, designed to find opportunities for employment outside the institution for those blind persons able and willing to work.

Should you desire to enter the institution, either as a learner or as a wage-earner, a blank form of application will be sent you on request, which will call for such items of information as we may require previous to your enrollment.

But whether you expect to seek the privileges of this institution or not, you can at least assist us in preserving an accurate register of the known blind of Michigan, to enable us from time to time to send them information likely to prove of value or interest to them or their immediate friends.

It is no idle or impertinent curiosity that prompts us to ask these questions. We wish to serve and befriend all the blind men and women of this state; and the good people of Michigan, through the Legislature, have directed that we should collect and preserve reliable information concerning the condition and needs of the blind inhabitants of this state. Will you not kindly assist us in the discharge of this duty?

A summary of the chief provisions of the act for the government of this institution is herewith appended. The benefits which we are authorized to offer to the worthy blind people of this state must conform to the requirements of that act.

Trusting to be favored with your early response to the foregoing communication, and to merit your confidence and friendly co-operation, I am

Truly your friend,

J. PERRINE HAMILTON.

A FREE LENDING LIBRARY FOR THE SIGHTLESS

Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind—Office of the Superintendent and Librarian.

Saginaw W. S., Michigan, August 30, 1904.

To the Blind People of the State of Michigan.

Greeting: The Act* establishing the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind, and providing for its management, etc., requires this institution to maintain a circulating library and reading circle for the benefit of the blind people of this state. Several hundred volumes of reading matter in the Roman line, the American Braille, and the New York Point Styles of printing for the blind are already on our shelves, with others promised for early delivery.

The passage of the "Rucker Bill," approved by President Roosevelt April 27, 1904, permitting reading matter for the blind to be carried free in the United States Mails, has made possible the maintenance of such a library at a reasonable cost.

The embossed publications to be mailed free of postage must not contain any personal correspondence nor advertising matter. Single books must not weigh more than ten pounds, and packages of pamphlets, music or other reading matter for the blind must not weigh more than four pounds. The sender's name and address must appear at the upper left hand corner of the wrapper, and there must be written or

* Public Acts of 1903, Approved by Gov. Bliss June 2, 1903.

printed at the upper right hand corner of the wrapper the word "free" over the words "Reading matter for the blind."

Suitable catalogues, application forms, mailing cases, etc., will be provided in the near future; but the earlier drawing of available reading matter from the library may be begun without their use.

The Michigan School for the Blind and various individuals have kindly placed at our command valuable accumulations of embossed books in the Roman line, American Braille, and New York Point types, and further accessions to our collection are being made as circumstances permit. We regret that a large sum of money is not available for placing at least one copy of every useful publication for the blind at once upon our shelves; but we will gladly do what we can to supply the reasonable requirements of all readers of raised print within our reach with respect to library facilities. And we earnestly solicit the active co-operation of all in efforts to increase the quantity and variety of the books, music and other reading matter at our disposal.

Have you or your friends any such reading matter, literary or musical, prepared especially for the use of the blind, which you or they would be willing to donate (or permanently loan) to our library for the use and benefit of other readers of such print? Such additions to the library will be very thankfully appreciated, and if received in time may be included in our first general catalogue of available reading matter for free circulation under the new postal concession.

Each totally or partially blind reader of embossed publications, on furnishing satisfactory references for the proper care and prompt return of the works to be drawn, may draw from the library of this institution not more than three bound volumes aggregating four hundred or more pages, or not more than one hundred and fifty pages of such matter in pamphlet or sheet form; and such book or other matter must be promptly re-mailed so as to reach the library within one month after the mailing of the same to the borrower.

New periodicals—those acquired by the library within six months prior to the date of the loan—and pamphlets less than forty pages in length and of recent acquisition, must be returned to the library within one week after the sending of the same as a loan, unless otherwise expressly indicated by the librarian.

A careful observance of the foregoing conditions and limitations prescribed for the protection of the equal rights of all, should prevent any forfeiture of the privileges of the library.

Whether you desire at present to avail yourself of the privileges of our circulating library or not, you are respectfully requested to aid us in the correction and completion of our register and directory of the blind of Michigan, and advise us concerning your ability to read books, letters, circulars, etc., which may be sent you embossed in any particular system of characters for the blind. To this end will you kindly fill up (with pen and ink, by the hand of some intelligent friend, acting under your personal direction) and return to this institution at your early convenience the accompanying blank form of a letter of information concerning yourself individually and greatly oblige.

Yours cordially,

J. P. HAMILTON, Supt.

[A. M. Shotwell, Librarian December 1, 1904] Circulating Library for the Blind, Saginaw West Side, Mich.

N. B.—Have you knowledge of any adult blind person who, under favorable conditions, might desire an opportunity to learn to read and write as other blind people do, or who might desire and be able to acquire some branch or branches of industry by which to contribute toward his or her own support?

BLANK FORM OF APPLICATION.

DEAR SIR:

Responding to your circular of information concerning the circulating library of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind, I submit the following facts:

1. My full name is.....
2. My present post-office address is.....
3. My legal residence is in the township of.....
 In the village of
 In the.....ward of the city of.....
 In the county of..... and State of Michigan.
4. My nearest railway station is at.....
 I have learned to read the Roman Line—American Braille—New York Point (underline the print you prefer.)
 I was under instruction in the school for the blind at.....
 as early as the year..... and as late as the year.....
 My blindness dates from the year..... My present chief occupation is that of a.....; and my chief occupation before the loss of sight was that of a.....

In all cases, any reading matter which I may receive as a loan from the library of your institution will be carefully preserved and promptly returned according to the prescribed rules and regulations of that institution.

Yours respectfully,

(Usual signature).....

Post Office Box.....

R. F. D.....

Number and street.....

Post Office

.....County, (State).....

I vouch for the safe return of all books loaned to the above party.

.....
 (To be signed by a responsible property holder.)

ESTABLISHMENT AND ORGANIZATION OF THE INSTITUTION.—PRELIMINARY STEPS AND ARTICLES.

(1)

November 19, 1912.

Secretary Shotwell's Paper Concerning Certain Existing Institutions Visited in 1902 and Certain Felt Needs of the Blind.

The following article, prepared for another occasion, was presented before the Michigan Blind People's General Welfare Association at its second biennial conference, held at Lansing in August, 1902, by Recording Secretary A. M. Shotwell in place of a wholly different topic unavoidably and unexpectedly omitted from the proceedings; and the discussion which it elicited led to the action of that organization directing the appointment of the "industrial home committee" of five,—with Mr. Rufus H. Crane, of S. Saginaw, as Chairman, and Mr. A. M. Shotwell, then of Lansing, as secretary,—to formulate plans for the establishment and management of the present Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind and to advocate the enactment of such a bill by the Legislature at the session of 1903, by whom the measure was duly enacted, receiving the approval of Governor Aaron T. Bliss on June 2, 1903.

AMONG THE INSTITUTIONS.

Notes on a trip from the Lake Region to the Potomac and the Hudson and back.

Ladies and Gentlemen: Your very earnest and generous request for some account of the recent visit made by President E. J. Nolan and myself to the seat of the Government and neighboring cities, cannot be, with a clear conscience, wholly refused, tho an accumulation of other demands upon our time forbids more than a very meager and hasty sketch of our tour.

Pursuant to the behest of our National Association in the seventh year of its organic existence, and highly appreciating the hearty co-operation of other friends of the blind in our movement, Mr. E. J. Nolan, LL. B., of Chicago, kindly laying aside his law-books and briefs for a time, and the writer with a leave of absence from the embossing department of the Michigan School for the Blind, Lansing, set our faces toward the District of Columbia on the 16th of February, (1902), arriving at our destination on the evening of the 17th by different routes.

Thru the kindness of a friend in the city, Rev. H. N. Conden, who rendered us valuable assistance in various ways during the two weeks of our sojourn at the Capital, we had previously arranged for board and lodging on East Capitol St. within three blocks of the Capitol, and so were spared the perplexity of seeking suitable quarters in a city where an exceptionally large portion of the inhabitants have but temporary residence. A boy from New England who had been several weeks in the District, was engaged as guide; and later, when his other engagements



Men's Dormitory.

Factory.

Administration
Building.

Women's Dormitory.

required his entire attention, we readily found a young man from Illinois to act as our chief assistant.

The weather in Washington for a day or two after our arrival was much like that we had left in the Upper Lake region; then rain and snow set in; and on the 21st and the morning of Washington's Birthday the streets about the Capitol were in a worse condition for pedestrians than the worst that I could call to memory in any northern city. Soon, however, the necessary appropriation was rushed thru, and several thousand men were set to work to clear the streets. Cloudy and rainy weather prevailed during most of our stay; and on the first of March the tracks of the Baltimore and Ohio railway were so flooded as to prevent the departure of the trains. The water on the Potomac flats was said to be higher than it had been before in fifteen years. We could not wonder that Congress was agitating the question of changing the inauguration day from the 4th of March to the 30th of April or the first week in May. But we insisted from the first that our work and mission must not be interrupted by weather conditions that did not prevent the assembling of a quorum of either branch of Congress.

We accordingly went daily to the doors and committee rooms of the two houses, and there spent as much time as practicable explaining the purpose, character, reasonableness and popularity of our measure for the education of the blind of the territories not otherwise provided for and the higher education of capable and ambitious blind students who may have completed the elementary courses of instruction now freely open to them in their respective states. So cordially was the matter considered by most of those interviewed on the subject as to give ground to hope for early and favorable action upon the measure, if those who desire to see the blind attain thru education to normal independence, will continue unitedly to urge the passage of the Bontell bill, drafted by our Association's representatives for that purpose.

While in Washington, we visited the U. S. Patent Office, the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum, the Washington Monument, the Congressional Library, other public buildings and places of interest, a charitable industrial home for the blind at 916 F St., N. W., where a dozen or 15 beneficiaries are enabled to contribute in greater or less degree toward their own support, and the Columbia Polytechnic Institute, at 1808 H St., N. W., where a similar number of blind persons are employed at living wages in printing, folding, and binding circulars, magazines and other pamphlets, etc., under the efficient superintendence of Mr. F. E. Cleaveland, a leading promotor of the establishment of the Connecticut Industrial Home for the Blind at Hartford, assisted by a practical printer, named Bell and other devoted workers. Other branches of skilled labor for the blind are to be added as opportunities offer. Those desiring further particulars as to Mr. Cleaveland's very commendable undertaking should send for a copy of his monthly organ, "Talks, Tales and Public Opinion," the subscription price of which is the same as that of the Connecticut edition of the periodical similarly named, viz., \$1.00 per annum.

We particularly enjoyed visiting the Pavilion of the Blind, a ground-floor room 48 feet square at the northwest corner of the Congressional Library building, which, under the earnest and intelligent superintendence of Miss Etta J. Giffin is fast becoming a most valuable bureau

of information in all matters pertaining to the work and welfare of the blind, as well as a repository of embossed literature and music and a place where, for nine months of the year, a course of free readings to the blind may be enjoyed on every afternoon of the week, except Sundays, or except when musical exercises take the place of the usual elocutionary entertainment.

Present limitations of time and space compel the postponement of various details of our necessarily brief stay in Washington for future narration if the subject seems to warrant further treatment.

Leaving that city by the Pennsylvania line on the morning of March 3, we spent several hours in Baltimore, visiting the Maryland Institution for the Blind, which has long flourished under the able superintendence of Mr. F. B. Morrison; also the Institution for the Colored Blind and Deaf, under the general supervision of a joint committee of managers of the senior institutions for the blind and deaf of that State, and were pleased with the evidences observed of intelligent devotion to the cause of the mental, social, and technical improvement of the young blind and in the opportunity afforded to worthy blind adults residing in the city to obtain employment in the industrial department of the Institution and thus assist in keeping the operation of the shop up to a normal standard of efficiency maintained in similar factories elsewhere.

Proceeding the same evening via Wilmington to Philadelphia, we were pleased to make the acquaintance of Miss Josephine B. Cobb, of 44 N. 4th St., the accomplished and praiseworthy publisher of the "Point Print Standard" and the "Philadelphia Magazine" established in 1867 by the late N. B. Kneass, Jr.

After necessary repose at the Bingham Hotel, a block or two east of the Pennsylvania depot and a mile or so west of the Delaware River, we repaired next morning by electric car to Overbrook, a suburb far to the west, where we were pleasantly entertained at the School for the Blind, of which Mr. E. E. Allen is the able and cordial superintendent. We were kindly permitted to inspect the admirable equipment of that school, altho a suggestion of quarantine against outside smallpox was in the air, and were much interested in the practice which there prevails of permitting some of the worthy students to attend a neighboring university before their formal graduation or final discharge from the Institution. The attention of the writer was particularly attracted to the improved appliances in use in the printing department of the School and to some of the exceptional advantages enjoyed by that school in common with four or five endowed American institutions located in large cities and governed by permanent boards of public-spirited trustees and corps of officers not subject to the fluctuations of political control of state affairs.

In the afternoon we visited the home for blind women at 39th St. and the working home for blind men at 3518 Lancaster Ave. The latter has been for more than 25 years under the efficient management of Mr. H. L. Hall, a capable and energetic blind man, and employs 120 workmen, mostly broom-makers, about one-half of whom reside outside the institution.

Going forward the same evening to the Metropolis, we visited on the following day the Institution first opened for the education of the blind

in the United States about 70 years ago and now located at the south-east corner of 9th Ave. and 34th St., New York. The eminent educator investigator and inventor, Wm. B. Wait, has been the honored superintendent of that school for nearly forty years; and during the valuable interview with which he favored us, he gave a most interesting and instructive account of his labors in behalf of the blind, with special reference to the introduction of improved types for embossed printing. We also had the pleasure of meeting his worthy brother-in-law, Mr. Stephen Babcock, who has been for a similar period a most successful and highly respected literary teacher in that Institution. Miss Rodney, the experienced visitors' attendant, and other kind workers also manifested a readiness to show us every attention. But our plans for the afternoon obliged us rather hurriedly to face again the storm that was raging without, and to forego the pleasure of accepting their very cordial invitation to remain to dinner.

We visited a home for the blind—mostly for aged people—at 104th St. and Amsterdam Ave. and the free circulating library for the blind on 91st St. The latter, now kept in a church basement, is soon to be placed under the care of the New York Public Library, altho it is to be hoped that some of its present promoters and most devoted care-takers may be retained to look after its continued usefulness under the consolidated organization.

On the following day we visited a working home for blind men in Brooklyn under the efficient superintendence of Mr. E. P. Morford, and later a church home for blind women also located on Long Island, and much regretted that the movement of the street-cars was so impeded by the effects of the previous day's snowstorm as to prevent our intended call at St. Joseph's Home, Princess Bay, Staten Island; and of course a visit to the industrial establishment said to be in operation at Yonkers, N. Y., was out of the question, as we had arranged to start for home by the West Shore train that evening.

We visited two or three other noteworthy places in the business part of the great city, and about sundown recrossed the Hudson by the ferry at the foot of 42nd street, and took the night train for Buffalo, arriving an hour late at breakfast time next morning. To pass an hour earlier within three miles of one's birthplace was a cross, almost a temptation, but a nearer approach was impracticable at that time. The understood need of the earlier resumption of daily duties at Lansing and other considerations impelled the writer to remain in the well-appreciated company of Mr. Nolan until we had crossed the International bridge over the upper Niagara, the southern part of the province of Ontario, and the ferry between Windsor and Detroit, in which latter city we took cordial leave of one another on the afternoon of March 7, proceeding alone in health and all good cheer to our respective fields of normal activity and usefulness.

The pleasing experiences and useful effects of such an expedition cannot be fully enumerated nor adequately estimated at this time; but it is confidently believed that the results will amply justify the sacrifices involved in such an undertaking, and that more than one of the practical objects of our Association will have been thereby promoted.

A. M. SHOTWELL.

COL. FOX TO GOV. LARRABEE.

IOWA SUGGESTION OF 1889 WHICH INFLUENCED MICHIGAN BOARD OF CONTROL TO FAVOR ESTABLISHMENT OF INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTION FOR ADULT BLIND. COPY OF A LETTER RECEIVED AT MICHIGAN SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, LANSING, IN 1889, WHICH LED THE MANAGEMENT TO RECOMMEND SIMILAR ACTION IN THIS STATE.

Des Moines, Feb. 6, 1889.

His Excellency, William Larrabee, Governor:

On several occasions when we have casually met the subject of an Industrial Home for the Blind has been alluded to, and as I was present at nearly all the sessions of the committee of the last Legislature having that question under consideration, and listened to the arguments of its friends, including representatives of that unfortunate class, I became even more interested than before and earnestly advocated a favorable answer to their application for the establishment of such an institution.

I conceive it quite unnecessary to present to you, Governor, arguments in favor of the state wisely providing for industrial, educational and reformatory institutions; the tendency of the public mind is in that direction, as it is against the pernicious influence of idleness, even upon the criminal classes. The blind when they leave the schools, whether public or private, where they have been educated, are almost universally moral, usually religious, and, as a rule, desirous of becoming self-supporting and useful citizens of society; but being at once thrown into a community all absorbed in competitive business rivalry, laboring under their disability, success in any occupation is rendered almost impossible; hence the state is invoked in behalf of these people.

Taking it for granted then that sufficient provision should be made for the education and employment of defective children and adults as far as the instruction and employment of the most favored; and realizing that ample means of education and employment for all classes of our citizens constitute important links in the chain that links together and solidifies the great republic, all must admit that an industrial home for the blind must be founded on the rock of equity and not solely upon the feelings of charity and pity. If the blind can be employed it imparts a sense of dignity and manliness of deportment that all careful observers see lacking in the blind depending on public charity.

Of course there are aged and infirm that must be cared for, but aside from these there are those trained to skillful work, eager to earn their living by the sweat of their brow, but who are not able to obtain employment or carry on business. This class includes not only those blind from birth, educated in schools for the blind, but those deprived of sight in advanced age by disease or accident. What shall be done for these classes is the question which just now occupies the minds of many philanthropic people of Iowa. The thoughtful have proposed the establishment of workshops for both sexes, and this plan seems to meet with general approval.

But what shall be the character of these institutions is the question

that prominently presents itself for consideration. The herding of men and women together, depriving them of the humanizing influences of the family circle, it is certainly best to avoid as far as possible. To the writer it is apparent that these workshops should not be almshouses or retreats for those weak in body or mind or who desire to subsist on the bread of charity, or to avoid the ordinary labor or occupations of life. "Independence through industry" should be the motto and should characterize such an institution. Such an establishment for willing workers is evidently demanded; a place where the indolent and the vicious are not permitted to enter, not a place where the irrepressible beggar and the self-respecting laborer would be associated. I need not portray the evils of such a system, I merely allude to them. Active occupation and opportunity to be useful constitutes the happiness of the blind, as well as of all others. Workshops, then, and not asylums are needed. In such a place they will find employment for their hands, comfort and peace for their hearts.

The most serious question that presents itself for consideration is, shall those who are thus employed be kept under care and guardianship, provided with board and lodging in common establishments and their expense covered wholly or in part by their earnings; or whether they should be treated as other people are, that is, paid for all they earn and left to the wholesome responsibility of taking care of themselves. Upon this subject there will be differences of opinion. To the writer, with his present light upon the subject and in the present condition of society, it seems that neither plan can be adopted, but that the two systems may be profitably combined. Let there be a boarding house where persons without families can have a home, paying a stipulated price from their other earnings; but where the parties have families by all means encourage the family and social circle. These would be scattered about in private houses with their kith and kin, instead of being isolated, they will be still of the world. The workshop would not be their home, being thus thrown more completely upon their own exertions, they would learn to be more self-reliant.

Such workshops as I have hinted at would be a hive of industry to which only the honest and diligent would resort. It should be open to such blind persons as are able and willing to work at various mechanic arts or desirous of learning one or more trades whereby they might become self-supporting. An exact account should be kept of the amount of work accomplished by each individual and of its market value.

So far as I have been able to learn the principal work for boys and men in shops connected with schools for the blind has been seating cane-bottom chairs, making mattresses and brooms and upholstering parlor furniture. For girls and women instruction is given in stitching, hemming, darning, plain sewing and knitting, both by hand and on the machine; the more advanced with needle and machine work, crocheting, making hammocks and articles of fancy work. The number of employments for the blind is very limited, and owing to the extensive use of machinery and the division of labor is continually contracting; hence the necessity of providing every possible facility for this unfortunate class.

It would seem best that such an establishment should be located near a large city, so that the products or manufactures may find a ready

market and its business attractions be developed and sustained through the patronage and encouragement of the community.

The great majority of our blind are American born. Brought up in this country, they are deeply imbued with the American spirit of freedom and independence, and only ask for the means of earning their livelihood. The aim of our educational and all institutions should be to make nobler men and women; in the language of another, "to produce harmony, symmetry and grace in every faculty of mind and body." This attainment of a high degree of human development is to be the chief glory of this country.

COL. M. D. FOX.

AID FOR THE ADULT BLIND OF MICHIGAN.

A well considered movement to answer the question. What is the true policy and intent of the people of this state in reference to the blind as set forth in the Constitution of Michigan (1850) Article XIII, Section 10?

(Copy of leaflet distributed by Industrial Home Committee of the Blind People's State Association during legislative session of 1903, reprinted from *Lansing Journal* of April 13, 15 and 8.)

Blind of Michigan—Interesting statistics showing their need of employment—New institution proposed—Bill making Appropriation Therefor has been reported favorably in the Senate.

From the Lansing Journal April 13, 1903.

From the 31st annual abstract of the reports of the superintendents of the poor, published last year (pages 18 and 19), it is learned that the dependence of 74 of the paupers in the poor houses, and 153 indigent persons assisted outside the poor houses, during the year 1901, was ascribed to their blindness. With proper instruction, training and opportunities for employment, a considerable number of these 227 blind persons, and of others now maintained by private charity, might be expected to become cheerful and self-respecting wage earners.

That this supposition is not a mere speculative inference is abundantly shown by the experience of Connecticut and California, Pennsylvania and Illinois, New York and the District of Columbia, the British Isles and certain European cities, where most valuable institutions for the same general purpose are in successful operation.

The following significant statistics are taken from the 29th (the last published) annual abstract of statistical information relative to the defective classes in Michigan, compiled under the supervision of the secretary of state from the detailed information collected by the township and ward supervisors and assessors at the time of making the annual assessment of property for taxation and statistical purposes in the year 1901, pursuant to section 4637 of the compiled laws of 1897:

Seven hundred ninety-three blind persons and 115 partially blind persons, total 908, were found in the state of Michigan in the spring of 1901.

Of these 908 persons, 562 or 62 per cent were males, and 346, or 38 per cent, were females; the general health of 651, or nearly 72 per cent, was reported as good; and 819, or 90 per cent, were persons of good habits. One hundred twenty-five were under 20 years of age; 259 were between 20 and 50 years; 291 between 50 and 70 years, and 249 were over 70 years of age. Two hundred eighty-six, or less than one-third of the whole number, had been inmates of public institutions. One hundred fifty-three, or nearly 17 per cent, were wholly, and 58 others, or over 6 per cent, were partially supported by the public, while the manner of support of 77 others was not reported. Those who were entirely self-supporting were not separately tabulated, but 620, or over 68 per cent of the whole number, were supported by themselves or their friends.

Three hundred fifty had no estates, and the estates, if any, of 315 others were not reported. Of the 243 reported as having estates, those of 101 persons were under \$1,000; 57 were between \$1,000 and \$2,000; 50 were between \$2,000 and \$5,000, and 30 were over \$5,000. Two hundred sixty-nine had no incomes, and the incomes, if any, of 484 others were not reported. Of the 155 reported as having incomes, 19 were under \$100; 51 were between \$100 and \$200; 32 between \$200 and \$500, and 43 were over \$500 per annum.

The blindness in 86 cases was congenital or hereditary, the assigned cause was inflammation in 81 cases, and accident or injury in the cases of 134 males and 17 females.

One hundred males and 72 females were reported as having no occupation, and the occupations, if any, of 44 men and 71 women, were not reported. In addition to 19 children and 129 students, the occupations pursued included the following: Agents, 6; broom-makers, 20; domestics, 11; grocers, 3; hotel keepers, 5; farmers, 153; farmers' wives, 15; house-keepers, 72; housewives, 44; laborers, 33; mechanics, 9; ministers, 5; musicians, 5; peddlers, 9; piano tuners, 8; publishers, 1; sawyers, 4; shoemakers, 3; teachers, 9; weaver, 1; other occupations, manifestly those pursued prior to the loss of sight, were reported, and some of the foregoing may possibly have been of this character, although blind persons have been known to engage in these pursuits. Such statistics would acquire added interest and value if the present occupations were more sharply distinguished from those pursued prior to deprivation, and if each supervisor would fill all blanks in the schedules according to the best of his information.

We believe that no one acquainted with the foregoing statistics and their import will doubt the propriety and desirability of aiding the blind of Michigan to cultivate their remaining powers of useful service and to obtain remunerative employment in such pursuits as may be found open to them, either in a special institution to be established for that purpose, or in private enterprises of their own or others outside that institution, wherever the kind offices of the management thereof may succeed in opening the way to such self-supporting employment.

The board of control of the Michigan School for the Blind has repeatedly recommended the establishment of such an institution as that contemplated in Senate Bill No. 265, now pending before the legislature. Holding that, for good reasons, it is highly desirable that such industrial home should be entirely separate and distinct from the present school.

A. M. SHOTWELL,

Lansing, Mich.

School for the Blind.

WORK FOR THE BLIND.

Necessity for new institution strongly urged—An acknowledged necessity—Bill now pending in the Senate will be of great advantage to the blind.

From the Lansing Journal, April 15, 1903.

The board of control of the Michigan School for the Blind, in its recently published eleventh biennial report (1900-1902, page 7), being frequently obliged to refuse admission to unfortunate adults who would gladly escape the calamity of enforced idleness suddenly thrust upon them by the loss of sight, makes the following reference to the need of an employment school and home such as is provided for in the Shotwell bill:

"There are, however, in the state, many who are blind, but who have reached such age and conditions as make their attendance at this school impracticable, for many of whom the struggle of life is a difficult and gloomy one; and we desire to again place ourselves on record as advocating the establishment of an industrial home for the blind, where work can be systematically provided, and board, clothing, etc., furnished at lowest possible cost. Such an institution should have no connection with the School for the Blind, which is simply a school."

The pending bill (Senate bill No. 265), for the establishment, government and maintenance of a Michigan employment institution for adult blind persons, has been carefully drafted with the foregoing object in view, embodying the most valuable features of the similar institutions established in other states and applying instructive results of their experience. And after a formal hearing in the senate chamber on March 25, participated in by Messrs. R. H. Crane, of Saginaw; D. S. Pettibone, of Grand Rapids, and A. M. Shotwell, of Lansing, members of the industrial home committee of the State Blind People's Association, and by several other advocates of the measure, it has been favorably reported (April 9) by the senate committee on state affairs; and, although like other appropriation bills, it must yet be passed upon by other committees and must ultimately receive the favorable votes of at least seventeen senators and fifty-one representatives, even if barely these numbers of members be present at the time of taking the votes, its leading supporters have reason to hope for a favorable result if all who appreciate the need of such an institution will promptly make their sentiments known to their respective senators and representatives in the legislature at Lansing.

From the Lansing Journal, April 8, 1903.

The bill for the establishment of a Michigan employment institution for the blind, introduced by Senator M. H. Moriarity, was drafted by A. M. Shotwell, stereotyper of embossed books for the blind at the state school at North Lansing, under the auspices of the Michigan Blind

People's General Welfare Association, of which he is secretary. It provides for the instruction of adult blind persons of good character for a limited term in such trades, callings and branches of useful learning as may serve to fit them to contribute to their own support, and after such necessary course of free instruction it would afford employment and supply board and lodging at cost to such as could not successfully maintain themselves at their own homes or by enterprises of their own.

Many are homeless and have neither the capital nor the business ability necessary to succeed in shops or enterprises of their own, but who would gladly earn their own support if employment were afforded them at reasonable wages in an institution of the kind proposed.

Illinois, California, Connecticut and Pennsylvania have such institutions that have proved highly beneficial to many worthy blind people, and it is believed that Michigan should afford similar accommodations for a hundred or more such workers, helping them to help themselves.

APPENDIX C.

CHARTER AND RULES OF THE MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

(1) THE GOVERNING ACT.

Act 169, Public Acts of 1903, approved June 2, 1903, entitled, "An Act to establish the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind and provide for its management, to make an appropriation therefor, and to provide for a tax to meet the same."

LOCATION, PURPOSE AND NAME OF THE INSTITUTION.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

SECTION 1. That there shall be maintained in some city of this state having a population of not less than ten thousand inhabitants, to be selected by the board of trustees of said institution, an institution for the training, care and employment of adult blind persons of good moral character, under the name and style of the "Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind."

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES: TERM OF OFFICE, ETC.: PROVISIO AS TO A BLIND MEMBER: REMOVAL: VACANCY, HOW FILLED: TREASURER TO GIVE BOND: EXPENSES: GOVERNOR TO BE EX-OFFICIO MEMBER.

SEC. 2. The general supervision and government of said institution shall be vested in a board of three trustees, who shall be appointed, in the first instance, by the Governor, to hold their offices for the terms of two, four and six years, respectively, from the first day of January, 1903, and until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified, their respective terms of office to be designated in their several appointments; and thereafter their respective successors shall each be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to serve for a term of six years, beginning the first day of January, or until their respective successors have been appointed and qualified: Provided, That one of said trustees shall be a blind person. The Governor shall have power to remove any of said trustees for misconduct, incompetency, or other sufficient cause, and to fill by appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term any vacancy occurring in said board from death, removal or otherwise, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate if in session when such vacancy occurs, or, in other cases, subject to the approval of the Senate at its next regular session. The said trustees shall each take and subscribe the constitutional oath of office and file the same with the Secretary of State. The Treasurer of said board shall give a bond to the people of this state in the penal sum of two thousand dollars, with two or more sufficient sureties, to be

approved by the Governor, conditioned for the faithful performance of his official duties. The members of said board shall each be entitled to receive the traveling and other necessary expenses of each of them while engaged in the performance of the duties of said office, which shall be audited and allowed by the State Board of Auditors and paid out of the funds of the said board of trustees: Provided, That the Governor shall be ex-officio a member of the board.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO SELECT SITE, ERECT BUILDINGS, ETC.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of said board of trustees to proceed immediately after appointment to select and acquire a suitable site or sites, and cause to be erected thereon such buildings and fixtures as shall be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act, and should there be any buildings or other fixtures located on such property when acquired, such structures shall be utilized so far as in the judgment of the board of trustees is practicable.

DEEDS, HOW EXECUTED.

SEC. 4. The deeds for such site or sites shall be executed to the people of the State of Michigan, and shall be deposited with the Auditor General.

WHO TO PREPARE PLANS.

SEC. 5. The board of trustees shall prepare and adopt plans for the grounds, buildings and fixtures for such institution of such form, style and dimensions as will, when completed, come within the sum which is by this act appropriated for that purpose. Such plans shall be subject to the provisions of Section seven of Act eighty-six of the Laws of eighteen hundred ninety-nine.

BOARD TO ADVERTISE FOR BUILDING BIDS: PROVISIO AS TO BONDS.

SEC. 6. Said board of trustees shall, as soon as it has secured such site or sites and adopted plans, and such plans have been approved in accordance with Section five of this act, proceed to advertise six successive weeks in six different newspapers printed in this state, for proposals for the erection and furnishing of such buildings in accordance with the plans. Upon receipt of such proposals it may make contracts, with such builders and contractors as shall make proposals most conducive to the interests of the state, taking into consideration the price, time of performance and the responsibility of the contractors: Provided, That every builder or contractor performing service or work, or furnishing materials under this act shall enter into such bonds, with sureties, for the proper performance of this contract, as shall be required by the said board of trustees.

EMPLOYMENT OF ARCHITECT AND OTHER EMPLOYES NECESSARY TO ERECTION OF BUILDINGS AND FIXING THEIR COMPENSATION.

SEC. 7. Said board of trustees shall have the power to appoint an architect and all such other agents, assistants and employes as may be necessary in the erection of buildings provided for in this act, and

to fix a reasonable compensation for their services, subject to and with the approval of the Governor. Such appointment shall not, however, be made from among the members of said board.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO BE BODY CORPORATE; NAME AND POWERS.

SEC. 8. The members of the said board of trustees, when appointed and qualified as provided in Section two of this act, shall constitute a body corporate and politic under the name and style of the "board of trustees of the Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind," with perpetual succession and with power to take, hold, enjoy and convey lands, tenements, hereditaments and personal property; to receive all donations and appropriations of money or property made for the purpose of promoting the industrial, intellectual, physical or general welfare of the blind or of any class of blind persons, and to discharge the trust thereby imposed; to make contracts; to sue and be sued; to plead and be impleaded, and to have and use a common seal and alter the same at pleasure. No real or personal property shall be held by the said corporation, except such as may be necessary to the discharge of the purposes of its creation. Said corporation shall establish and maintain its principal office in the city where the institution provided for in this act shall be located, which office shall be open to the public at all times, Sundays and legal holidays excepted.

APPROPRIATIONS, ETC., HOW CONTROLLED: PROVISIO AS TO THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING LAWS.

SEC. 9. All appropriations made to or for the said Employment Institution for the Blind and all moneys and the proceeds of all real and personal property received by the said board of trustees by gift, bequest, devise, or otherwise, the purpose whereof shall not have been otherwise specifically designated and prescribed by the donors, grantors, or other contributors thereof, shall be set apart as an "adult blind worker's aid fund," which shall be controlled, drawn and expended by the said board of trustees for the creation, equipment, improvement, care and support of said Employment Institution for the Blind and the promotion of the objects thereof or for the lawful maintenance, treatment, instruction, or assistance of the proper beneficiaries of said institution, and for no other purpose: Provided, The board of trustees shall always be subject to the general accounting laws of the state.

BOARD TO EQUIP INSTITUTION: TO ESTABLISH DEPARTMENTS: CERTAIN DUTIES OF BOARD.

SEC. 10. Said board of trustees shall have the power, and it shall be their duty, so to provide, equip and control the said institution as to carry into effect all the intents and purposes of this act; and to this end shall establish, open, and regulate an industrial or polytechnic school and factory, a working home, and an employment and information bureau and circulating library, for the benefit of adult blind persons of good moral character, together with such other departments as in their judgment may seem wise and judicious and best calculated to promote the objects and the efficiency of said institution. It shall be the duty of

the said board of trustees to prescribe the articles to be manufactured and the services to be rendered by the students, apprentices, wards, wage-workers, and other inmates of said institution, the various kinds of machinery and tools to be used therein, the hours of labor to be required of workers in the several departments thereof, with the rates of compensation to be allowed for the labor or services of proficient workers, and the charges to be required of such workers or the inmates for board, lodging, washing, and other care or services rendered them at the expense of the institution. Said board shall establish a system of government and make all necessary by-laws, rules and regulations for said institution, for the reception, supervision and control of the lawful beneficiaries or employes, for enforcing discipline, for imparting instruction, for preserving health, and generally for the proper physical, intellectual, moral, social and industrial training and welfare of the inmates and beneficiaries of said institution and for the proper equipment, care, and efficient management of the institution and its several departments.

BOARD TO FURNISH CERTAIN TRAINING: EXPENSES, HOW PAID: WHEN MAY MAKE CHARGES: PROVISIO AS TO LIMIT OF CHARGES.

SEC. 11. Said board of trustees shall afford adult blind residents of this state of good moral character, who are in suitable physical and mental condition for receiving instruction, and are in need thereof, thorough instruction and training in such arts, trades, callings and branches of learning as will, in the opinion of said board, best serve to fit such persons to earn, in whole or in part, their own support. All the expenses of affording the industrial or business education and the physical, mental, and moral training herein provided for, including the cost of tuition, raw materials, and maintenance for a limited term of instruction, not to exceed three years for any individual learner, or so much thereof as the said board of trustees may deem to be just and expedient, shall be defrayed out of the moneys appropriated for the use of said board or otherwise granted, collected, or received for the support of said institution or for the general welfare of the lawful beneficiaries thereof. But said board of trustees shall have power when deemed necessary or expedient, to charge a reasonable compensation for the instruction, care, and maintenance of all such proper beneficiaries of said institution applying for necessary instruction, employment, care, treatment or assistance under the supervision thereof as are or may be willing to pay for the advantages so afforded them by said board: Provided, That the compensation so charged shall not exceed the amount paid out by said board on account of said beneficiaries, plus a reasonable charge for the use of the apparatus, furniture, books, and general equipment and supervision of said institution.

BOARD TO MEET MONTHLY: TO ELECT OFFICERS, ETC.

SEC. 12. It shall be the duty of the members of said board of trustees to hold regular stated meetings at said institution once in each month on their own adjournment, and oftener if they shall deem it advisable, at such times as they may appoint, and on such day biennially as they shall determine and establish; they shall elect from their own number a president, a secretary, and a treasurer of said board, to hold their

offices for two years and until their successors shall have been elected and qualified. The said board shall also appoint some suitable person, not a member of the said board, who shall be the superintendent and chief executive officer of said institution. A majority of said trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

SECRETARY TO KEEP MINUTES: POWERS AND DUTIES OF SUPERINTENDENT:
PROVISO AS TO EMPLOYMENT OF BLIND.

SEC. 13. It shall be the duty of the secretary of the said board of trustees to prepare and preserve in a book to be kept for that purpose, accurate minutes of all the proceedings thereof. It shall be the duty of the superintendent of said institution to keep a correct list of all blind persons receiving the assistance or instruction afforded by said institution; to collect, compile, and publish such statistical and general information concerning the industries, occupations, conditions and needs of the blind as said board shall authorize and direct; to inquire into the fitness and capabilities of all applicants for receiving the instruction, employment or assistance which the said institution is authorized and prepared to afford; to arrange for the admission, instruction, employment, treatment or assistance of eligible applicants on such terms and conditions and in such manner as may be prescribed and approved by said board; to visit any charitable, educational or other public institutions, State institutions excepted, in which any blind persons over fourteen years of age may be in attendance and inquire into the condition and needs of such persons whenever, in the opinion or under the rules of the said board of trustees, it may seem necessary or desirable so to do; and he shall have power, with the advice and consent of the board of trustees, to appoint an assistant superintendent, a matron, and all such other officers, agents, servants, and assistants as may be necessary for the successful discharge of the mission of said board and the efficient management of said institution; also to prescribe their duties and fix the compensation for their services, and to remove and discharge them whenever, in the judgment of the board, the welfare of the service shall demand such action: Provided, That, so far as may be practicable, the work to be done in and about said institution shall be assigned to, and performed by, blind persons. Said superintendent shall also supervise and conduct an information and employment bureau and a circulating library and reading circle for the benefit of blind persons; and arrange for the employment of suitable readers, instructors, servants, or other assistants when directed so to do by the said board; and discharge such other duties as the board may prescribe.

BOARD TO MAKE REPORT: WHAT TO SET FORTH.

SEC. 14. The board of trustees shall make and submit a biennial report to the Governor and the legislature on or before the tenth day of November preceding each regular session of the legislature, which report shall set forth, among other things, a statement of the progress, condition, and needs of the several departments of the institution, the industries, occupations, and branches of knowledge taught or pursued and the progress made therein, the number, names, and residences of all

the blind persons of each description received and discharged during the two fiscal years closing on the thirtieth day of the preceding June, and of those remaining in charge or in the employ of said board, also of all the officers, instructors, and employes and assistants connected with said institution, together with their respective rates of compensation, and a detailed account of the receipts and disbursements of said board during such biennial period, with estimates of the amount needed for the support of the institution for the ensuing two years, and such other information relating to said institution and the objects thereof as they may deem proper.

BLIND PERSONS BETWEEN EIGHTEEN AND SIXTY YEARS OF AGE TO BE RECEIVED: PROVISIO AS TO PARTIALLY BLIND: HOW INSTRUCTED: PROVISIO AS TO YOUNGER AND OLDER PERSONS: FURTHER PROVISIO AS TO SUSPENSION OF WORK: PROVISIO AS TO DISCHARGE OF INMATES.

SEC. 15. There shall be received in said institution as apprentices or learners, as assisted wards, or as wage-workers all those blind persons, residents of this State or, if minors, whose parents or guardians are residents of this State, between the ages of eighteen and sixty years, who are of good moral character and in suitable condition of body and mind to receive the instruction therein afforded or, by their labor or services, to earn the cost of their own support: Provided, That partially blind persons whose defective sight is such as to prevent them from successfully engaging in those common pursuits wherein the possession of vision is deemed requisite to success, may be admitted to the privileges and benefits of said institution upon such just and reasonable terms as the said board of trustees may prescribe. Such persons as may be duly admitted to said institution as dependent wards, apprentices, or polytechnic students shall be so instructed, trained, and maintained at said institution or by said board for a limited time, not to exceed three years in any case while acquiring any useful art, trade, or calling, without charge for tuition, board, lodging, washing, medicine, or medical attendance: Provided, That the board of trustees may, in their discretion, admit persons between the ages of fourteen and eighteen years with the approval of the board of control of the Michigan School for the Blind at Lansing, and may in their discretion admit persons over sixty years of age: And provided further, That in case of the unavoidable suspension of the industrial or manufacturing department of the institution or of any trade or calling pursued in said institution, no charge shall be made for the maintenance of those wage-workers or blind employes whose opportunity for earning their own support shall be thereby interrupted, unless such suspension shall continue for a longer time than fourteen weeks in any one year: And provided, further, That said board of trustees shall have power to dismiss and discharge any inmate or beneficiary of said institution whenever they shall deem it advisable so to do on account of persistent disobedience, immoral conduct, or other sufficient cause or in consequence of such person having completed the course of training or otherwise accomplished the purpose for which he or she may have been admitted to said institution.

SUPERINTENDENTS OF POOR TO SEND CERTAIN PERSONS TO INSTITUTION: TO PROVIDE THEM WITH CLOTHING, ETC.

SEC. 16. It shall be the duty of the superintendents of the poor of the several counties of this State to send or cause to be sent to the said employment institution for the blind all such persons as are entitled to admission therein who are a charge upon their respective counties or any township or city therein. Such superintendents of the poor shall, before sending any blind persons to said institution under the provisions of this section, cause them to be decently and comfortably clothed, and shall provide them with comfortable clothing while they remain at said institution, and shall defray their traveling expenses in going to and returning from said institution, and provide them with such articles of necessity and convenience as may be required by the rules and regulations of said institution to be furnished by the inmates thereof, and shall also pay for the board of such persons during any vacation or other necessary suspension of the work of such persons, not exceeding fourteen weeks for any individual during any one year, if they are permitted to remain at said institution during such vacation or other necessary suspension of their work. All persons entitled to admission to said institution who are not a charge upon any county of this State, but who, on account of their poverty, are unable to furnish themselves with proper clothing and other articles required by the rules and regulations of said institution, shall receive the same aid from the superintendents of the poor of their respective counties while attending said institution as is provided in this section for those who are a county charge. All expenses incurred by the superintendents of the poor under this section shall be a proper charge against their respective counties, and shall be defrayed out of the poor fund of such county.

ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION.

SEC. 17. The sum of one dollar, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the purchase or acquirement of said site or sites; the sum of fifty thousand dollars, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, for the payment on contracts provided for in section six of this act, and for the purpose of purchasing furniture, bedding, cooking utensils, and such other necessary furniture and equipments as may be required for said institution, is hereby appropriated; the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars is hereby appropriated for power, tools, implements, and such working material as may be deemed necessary in the different departments; the sum of ten thousand dollars is hereby appropriated to defray the current expenses of said institution for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred four, and the further sum of twenty-five thousand dollars for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred five. The Auditor General is hereby authorized and required to add to and incorporate in the State tax for the year nineteen hundred three the sum of eighty-five thousand dollars, and for the year nineteen hundred four the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, from which amount the general fund shall be reimbursed for any and all amounts appropriated under this section: Provided, That if in any case the sum or sums hereby appropriated for any particular purpose shall not be necessary for the purpose indicated, then

said board shall have the authority to expend any surplus funds for any purpose or purposes deemed necessary in the said institution.

REPEALING CLAUSE.

SEC. 18. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Approved June 2, 1903.

(2) RULES OF DEPARTMENT.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOV. 28, 1904.

ORDERLY AND COURTEOUS BEHAVIOR AND OBEDIENCE REQUIRED; DISMISSAL FOR HABITUAL INTOXICATION OR DISOBEDIENCE.

Rule 1. All apprentices, wage-workers, and other members of the Institution will conduct themselves, at all times, in a quiet and orderly manner, and observe strict courtesy toward the officers and in intercourse with each other. They will discharge such duties as may be required of them by the Superintendent or by his orders. Any member who is habitually intoxicated or who disobeys orders may be summarily discharged by the Superintendent, subject to the subsequent approval of the board of trustees.

PROFANITY, VULGARITY, QUARRELING, ETC., FORBIDDEN.

Rule 2. Profanity and vulgarity are forbidden; and quarrels or disorderly conduct among the members or employes will subject the offenders to discipline.

USE OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS, ETC.

Rule 3. The use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage upon the grounds or in the buildings is strictly forbidden; and any member bringing intoxicating liquors upon the grounds or into the buildings to be used as a beverage, or coming upon the grounds or into the buildings or found upon the grounds or in the buildings, in an intoxicated condition shall be disciplined at the discretion of the Superintendent.

UNNECESSARY NOISE AT NIGHT.

Rule 4. No unnecessary noise, such as talking, walking the floor with shoes on, or coming in noisily, will be allowed between the prescribed hour for retiring and the hour for rising.

CLEANLINESS IN PERSON AND DRESS.

Rule 5. Scrupulous cleanliness in person and dress is enjoined; and all members must take a bath once a week.

WATER AND REFUSE; WHERE DEPOSITED.

Rule 6. Water, sweepings, or refuse of any sort shall not be thrown from the windows or doors of the buildings, but shall be deposited in such place or places as may be designated by the Superintendent or his representative.

DEFACING OR DAMAGING STRUCTURES, TREES, ETC.

Rule 7. Marking or otherwise defacing the buildings is forbidden; and destroying or damaging the lawn, trees, shrubbery, fences, or structures, will subject the offender to punishment or dismissal; and render him liable to the Institution for damages.

MEMBERS TO ENTER APPROVED PLACES ONLY.

Rule 8. Members shall not enter the shops or factory outside of working hours, nor the barns, stables, boiler room, laundry, kitchen, bakery, nor any buildings other than their respective dormitories without the permission of the Superintendent or his duly authorized representative.

NEATNESS IN DINING HALL, ETC.

Rule 9. At the prescribed hour, members shall rise, wash, and dress themselves neatly; and when assembled for meals, the officer in charge of the dining room shall refuse admittance or service to any not neat in appearance.

SIGNAL FOR PREPARATION FOR MEALS.

Rule 10. A call will be sounded fifteen minutes before each meal, to allow preparation therefor.

USE OF TOBACCO; EXPECTORATING, ETC.

Rule 11. No member shall smoke in any of the buildings of the Institution except in such place or places as designated by the Superintendent. And members using chewing tobacco in any of the buildings of the Institution elsewhere shall provide themselves with suitable cuspidors and keep the same in a cleanly condition. And expectorating upon any of the floors, walls, walks, furniture, fixtures, or personal property of the Institution is strictly forbidden.

HOUR FOR RETIRING, ETC.

Rule 12. At 9:30 p. m., all members shall retire to their rooms; and at 10 o'clock all the dormitories must be quiet.

FURNACES, LIGHTS, BELLS, ETC., NOT TO BE MEDDLED WITH.

Rule 13. No members or employes other than persons assigned to such duty shall at any time touch or handle the furnaces, ranges, lights (other than the lights in their respective rooms), bells, sewer or water works of the Institution.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE GROUNDS.

Rule 14. Members and employes living in the Institution shall not leave the grounds without the consent of the Superintendent.

NEGLECT OR ILL-TREATMENT BY AN OFFICER, ETC.

Rule 15. All officers and employes of the Institution must be kind and courteous in their conduct to the members; and profane, abusive, or vulgar language is strictly forbidden. In case of ill-treatment or neglect by an officer or employe, complaint should be made to the Superintendent.

SERVICE WITHOUT PAY, AS PENALTY.

Rule 16. The Superintendent is authorized, in meting out punishment for the violation of any of these rules, to compel the offending party to perform such duty for such length of time without pay as he may think the nature of the offense shall merit.

Forty-eight hours' work per week is required of apprentices and industrial wage-workers.

So far as practicable, the current scale of wages paid in ordinary industrial establishments, reduced to equivalent piece price rates of compensation, forms the basis of the scale of wages allowed to proficient sightless employes or wage-earners in this Institution.

(3) RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FREE LENDING LIBRARY.

(ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, JUNE, 1908).

1. The privileges of the library are extended to present and former residents of Michigan, to other blind persons who may have contributed acceptable reading matter to the library, and, in the discretion of the librarian, to other applicants complying with the rules who may be thus served without disadvantage to the blind inhabitants or the taxpayers of this state.

2. Upon suitable blank forms prepared for the purpose, the several applicants shall give satisfactory information concerning themselves, their ability to read books for the blind, and their freedom from any contagious or infectious disease, and a certificate of their reliability signed by a responsible taxpayer of their neighborhood, thus assuring the proper care and prompt return of the books to be borrowed.

3. No charge will be made for the proper use of the borrowed reading matter; but for ink publications or other works that cannot be freely circulated by mail, the cost of their transportation from and to the library by mail or express shall be collected in advance.

4. A reader desiring the use of a particular volume or pamphlet, should present to the librarian a written requisition (upon Form 1, or an equivalent card or slip, in either embossed point or visual characters), indicating the name of the author (if known), the title and volume of the work desired, the kind of print, the call letters and number given in the finding-list, the date of such request, and the applicant's name and

full P. O. address; which requisition, with the date of the loan (if any) indorsed thereon, shall be kept on file until such work is returned and credited or otherwise properly accounted for, or until such unfilled requisition shall be duly canceled.

5. A reader may draw or have in possession at one time works not exceeding four hundred pages in bound volumes of more than sixty pages each, or smaller works not exceeding one hundred and eighty pages and not exceeding four pounds in weight including wrappings, or proportionate amounts of both classes of works.

6. Standard and miscellaneous volumes of more than sixty pages each, not in exceptional demand, may be drawn for thirty days at a time; and unless returned or renewed within the prescribed limit of time, the librarian is directed immediately to forward to the borrower the proper notice (Form 3) calling for the prompt return of the overdue work.

7. Upon application to the librarian during the last week of the term of a loan for thirty days, the same may be renewed for thirty days additional, unless another applicant desires an opportunity to read the same work; in which latter case the librarian will request its prompt return to the library (using Form 4, or its equivalent).

8. Current periodicals and other works not exceeding sixty pages each, and larger volumes in exceptional demand during the first half year after their acquisition by the library, may be drawn for ten days at a time; and unless returned to the library within that time, the librarian is directed to request their immediate return.

9. Forfeiture of privilege will be enforced in case of wilful disobedience of rules or any flagrant disregard for the equal rights of other beneficiaries of the library. Borrowers are responsible for reading matter drawn by them. No book shall be loaned to a reader while any claim for damage is due the library from such borrower. Intentional injury to books or other library property incurs a fine by statute.

10. The qualified applicants shall be freely supplied with suitable finding-lists, indicating, for the several works in the lending library, the style of print employed, the general classification of subject matter, the author's name (if known), the title and edition of each work, the general scope of each volume of works embossed in sets, and the call letters and number by which each work may be briefly designated in requisitions and accounts; and such finding-lists will be suitably printed in embossed point characters, together with a corresponding edition in ordinary ink characters; and to each copy thereof will be appended or prefixed a copy or abstract of the principal rules of the library and of the postal regulations relative to the free transmission of loaned reading matter for the blind, together with suitable forms of instructions for borrowing and returning books, applying for renewals, etc.

11. It shall be the duty of the librarian: (a) To assign to the several works in the library their appropriate classification, designations, arrangement upon the shelves and in the finding-lists; (b) To loan the same promptly to the qualified applicants in accordance with the rules for the government of the library and the Institution, and see that the same are promptly returned to the library in proper condition at the expiration of each term of loan or its authorized renewal; (c) To prepare and keep a card or envelope catalog of the reading matter of the library and a convenient register of the addresses and reading ability of its several

beneficiaries, and a record of the circulation of the several works and classes of works loaned, and prepare for publication from time to time suitable statistical abstracts of the work of the library and of the literary department of the Institution; (d) To keep an account with each work in circulation, showing when and by whom drawn, when returned, etc.; (e) To have the proper designation by call letters and number, and the address of the library plainly marked upon an inside cover page of each volume or pamphlet circulated by the library; and (f) To afford all reasonable aid, instruction, and information to blind applicants and workers for the blind; and so to plan and conduct the library work and the literary instruction of the adult blind of Michigan, whether inmates or outmates of the Institution, that the same may be efficiently performed by competent blind persons acting under his direction and supervision.

(g) To respond promptly to requests for books that cannot be at the time supplied (see Form 2), thus affording to the applicant an opportunity promptly to call for another work, if further unfilled requisitions from such reader are not already on file.

